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ACADEMY REWARDS
RED-CARPET EATS FOR YOUR OSCAR PARTY
{page 43}

HILARIOUS WANDERLUST LOADED WITH LAUGHS {page 31}

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Weekend, February 24-26, 2012
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News worth sharing.

▶ Phoenix Coyotes' Oliver Ekman-Larsson, left, gets checked into the bench by Jarome Iginla in Calgary on Thursday. The Flames lost 4-3. Story, page 44.

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Coyotes edge out Flames

Public school board could be facing $30-million deficit

◗ Teachers' union 'fears the worst' ◗ Education minister deflects criticism of provincial budget allocation

Calgary's public school board is staring down a $30-million operating-budget deficit for next year that could once again threaten staffing levels, Metro has learned.

This comes after chief superintendent Naomi Johnson issued a warning Tuesday that "challenges" lie ahead as her administration works to maintain proper instructional resources for an ever-growing student base.

A request was made to speak with Johnson further about the upcoming budgetary process earlier this week; however, a spokesperson pointed to a statement from her posted to the Calgary Board of Education's (CBE) website.

Within that statement Johnson says, "Our overriding goal will be to minimize the impact on students in classrooms."

Still, groups waiting anxiously for an official budget report, expected to come before CBE trustees late next month, expressed little hope the $30-million shortfall can be overcome without impacting classrooms.

Teaching positions

- Last spring, facing a roughly $62-million operating-budget deficit, the Calgary Board of Education cut 171 frontline teaching positions. Most of those were hired back after a $107-million cash injection from newly elected Premier Alison Redford late last year.
- The Calgary Board of Education's final operating budget for 2012-2013 will be approved May 29.

"We fear the worst," said Jenny Regal with the local chapter of the Alberta Teachers' Association.

She puts the blame squarely on the recently released provincial budget that offers up a one per cent increase to the basic instruction grant this year and subsequent two per cent hikes in 2013 and 2014. School board operating budgets were also increased 3.4 per cent, leading Education Minister Thomas Lukaszuk to declare the education budget a "dream" earlier this month.

The minister stood by the words Thursday after learning of the projected CBE deficit.

"We have given them predictable, three-year funding like they asked.... They have to live within their means," he said. "I don't believe they have an income problem."

But Regal disagrees, questioning whether it has become necessary for groups like hers to literally beg provincial MLAs for more funding.

"If that's the case, then, to draw from Oliver (Twist), we should approach them with our hats held out in our hands and say, 'Please sir, I want some more,'" she said.

JEREMY NOLAIS

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1 news

Researchers have tagged a killer whale belonging to a group classified as endangered in the U.S. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at metronews.ca

A father has been sentenced to probation for letting his 9-year-old drive when he was drunk. Cameras recorded a portion of the drive. Watch at metronews.ca/video

Power lines approved

Alberta moved ahead Thursday with two big-ticket, high-voltage electricity lines while at the same time taking steps to reduce the high cost and volatility of power bills.

Energy Minister Ted Morton announced he will ask the Alberta Utilities Commission to proceed with two 500-kilovolt lines running from the Edmonton area down to Calgary and beyond.

The cost has been pegged at about $3 billion.

Morton said he accepted the recommendations of an independent expert panel that said the lines are needed to service Alberta's growing population and industry.

Also on Thursday, Premier Alison Redford announced during question period the government will strike an independent panel to review ways to reduce the rates and price volatility for consumers not on fixed-rate contracts.

She said they will also ask the utilities commission to freeze the add-on fees on power bills, which cover such things as administration costs, while the review is underway.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Two power lines

- One is AltaLink's Western Alberta Transmission Line, running 350 kilometres from west of Edmonton at Genessee to an area just east of Calgary. ATCO Electric is pursuing one that would run 500 km from east of Edmonton down to Brooks.

METRO FILE

▶ An Airdrie toddler suffered an ultimately fatal bite wound from a husky dog inside this home earlier this month. The owners claimed in a statement Thursday that the dog and others living in the home are well trained.

Family thinks dog was trying to comfort newborn: Friend

Family describes son's death from dog bite as 'tragic accident'
RCMP says probe revealed no negligence, no criminal charges will be laid

A friend of an Alberta couple whose two-day-old baby was killed by the family's pet husky says the dog was probably trying to comfort the crying boy when it delivered one fatal bite to the child's delicate, tiny head.

Dawn Donald says she has spoken with the baby's devastated parents, Rob and Rhonda Fradette, and they seem to have done everything they were supposed to do when they brought their new baby home from the hospital last week.

They had locked the dog in its kennel in the basement and put their sleeping baby in his crib, Donald said. But somehow the dog escaped and went to investigate when the baby woke up crying. It was not a vicious attack, she said, and the same bite wouldn't have killed an older child.

The parents believe the dog may have been trying to care for the child, she said.

"When dogs grab their young, they grab them there to pull them in," said Donald, who came to know the Fradettes through the dog-sledding community in southern Alberta.

"It wanted to nurture, care for (the baby)," Donald said. "It felt like it was part of the family. That's what it seemed like to them."

The parents issued a statement through the RCMP on Thursday that described their son's death as an "unthinkable, tragic accident" but did not talk about what happened.

"We will never know what our family pet was thinking, nor will we ever know why she did what she did," they said. "We now have to accept what has happened and move forward in our grieving and healing."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Attack

- The baby was born on the night of Feb. 13 and was attacked on the morning of Feb. 15 at the couple's house in Airdrie, a bedroom community just north of Calgary.
- He died 12 hours later at Alberta Children's Hospital in Calgary.

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Mother left to grieve son alone

Police issue plea based on new evidence in year-old case Victim's mother lost husband on Wednesday

JEREMY NOLAIS
@METRONEWS.CA

As police shed new light Thursday on a suspicious 2011 death, the grief experienced by the victim's mother was made that much worse by the death of her husband.

Roderick Basaraba was found unconscious inside his burning home in the 1800 block of 15th Street Southwest on Feb. 23 of last year. He was rushed to hospital but later died.

Police have not deemed the incident a homicide but they revealed Thursday that the deceased 57-year-old was involved in an altercation inside the home prior to his death.

"This is a very complex crime scene.... We have present a man that was assaulted and at the same time we have a house fire and the combination of both is making this investigation challenging," said homicide Staff Sgt. Grant Miller.

Meanwhile, Basaraba's mother, Eleanore, was forced to endure the one-year anniversary of her son's death alone — her husband of nearly 60 years died Wednesday.

"It has been a hard year," she said, recalling fond memories of her son trudging over from his Bankview residence located directly next to hers to enjoy a home-cooked meal.

"I was very close with him.... I'm not really sure what's next for me."

For more local news, visit metronews.ca/calgary

Two suspects

- Calgary police revealed Thursday they are seeking two suspects in the death of Roderick Basaraba.
- Details remain limited, but Staff Sgt. Grant Miller said the pair may have been driving a late 1990s Jeep Cherokee.
- Anyone with information is asked to contact police or Crime Stoppers.

METRO FILE

▶ Roderick Basaraba's Bankview home is seen taped off after his body was discovered there on February 24, 2011.

Ballooning costs could kill Mission Road project

As costs of a community-visioning project on Mission Road continue to escalate, some aldermen are questioning whether the concept should be dumped entirely.

With Ald. Gian-Carlo Carra at the helm, the Mission Road Main Street Innovation Project worked with community members to build a vision for development along Mission Road.

A report coming forward to council on Monday states $436,000 has been spent to date on consulting fees and internal staffing, with administration projecting a final cost of more than $583,000.

"Mission Road is an expensive process," said Carra. "I'm extremely worried that (the costs) could kill it."

Ald. Gord Lowe said he couldn't justify spending more money on this project, as developers haven't expressed interest in building the final product.

"The fact is we don't have an applicant," he said. "I question the wisdom of spending more money when it's not going to be built anyhow."

Bill Fischer of the Erlton Community Association participated in the community consultation and said he would be disappointed if council killed the project entirely.

"I would think it would be a huge disappointment because this is the first stab at a design like this."

METRO FILE

▶ The Mission Road project, spearheaded by Ald. Gian-Carlo Carra, could be halted as costs continue to rise.

Internal staffing

- According to a city report, more than $100,000 was spent on internal staffing at the city for the project.
- Carra said he plans to request another $90,000 from council on Monday.

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COMPLAIN MUCH?

IN DEFENCE OF

MIKE MORRISON
METRO CALGARY

One of the best things about Calgary is its people. Ours is a city of strong-minded, independent and hard-working citizens. Unfortunately, I think our entrepreneurial spirit has spawned a new type of Calgary, one that complains about every little thing; which leaves me asking, "When did we turn into a city of complainers?"

I notice it most when I mention the Peace Bridge. It's always welcomed with an eye-roll and the meritless and tired complaint that the project is a waste of taxpayers' money — usually while people are holding a $5 latte.

And since the bridge has been delayed for so long, that adds up to a lot of eye-rolling. Well, who cares how much money the city spent on it? It's something that will soon become a fixture of our city, bringing thousands of tourists with their wallets into the downtown area. Every year we travel to places that have great architecture, and soon Calgary, with its Peace Bridge, will be one of those places.

When it comes to being green, it seems that Calgarians will complain about it until they are blue in the face. The city has decided to introduce a new green-bin pilot program that will make composting cleaner and easier. Instead of looking at composting as an investment in the future of this city, all complainers can think about is how annoying and what a waste of money the program will be.

Complaining is easy. I'll admit that maybe I've been guilty of doing it one or two times in this very column, but since when does this city ever take the easy way out? We're a smart city that likes a challenge. So why don't we challenge ourselves to think beyond the present? Let's think about what we want Calgary to look like in 50 years, or maybe even more.

If complainers are that upset, then they should take their frustration to the voting booth. After all, the aldermen, MLAs and MPs are the ones who have the final say in all these decisions that we're all complaining about.

Either way, I'm sure the complainers will be at the Peace Bridge opening March 24, so we can talk about it then.

Mike Morrison is the perfectly bald head behind Mike's Bloggity Blog. He also tweets regularly from @mikesbloggi-

Arabic elementary program ruled out

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

▶ Calgary Board of Education chief superintendent Naomi Johnson said her administration could not guarantee proper resources to move forward with an Arabic elementary-school program.

Parental support

- Roughly 200 parents attended an initial open house regarding a possible Arabic elementary-school program last year.
- Edmonton's public board has offered an Arabic program for more than 25 years, but Calgary Board of Education chief superintendent Naomi Johnson said her board requires a higher percentage of subjects to be taught in the alternative language being offered.

▶ Efforts still being made to offer similar courses at high school level
▶ Alberta education minister says he stands behind decision

JEREMY NOLAIS
@METRONEWS.CA

Parents frustrated by a Calgary public school board decision not to offer an Arabic elementary-program say they plan to take their concerns up the chain to Alberta's education minister.

But Thomas Lukaszuk told Metro late Thursday he is unlikely to intervene in such a matter.

"Part of the authority invested in locally elected (school) trustees is to develop programs that are either desired by or reflective of the community," he said. "I will respect their choice."

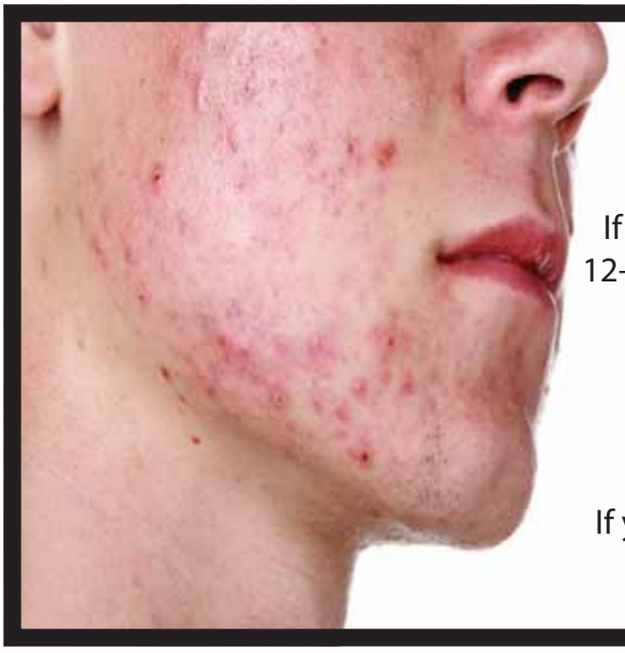
Parents who have consulted with Calgary Board of Education officials regarding the program for more than a year and a half, claiming it was supported by hundreds of parents and community members, were quick to point out the decision was never put to the board of trustees and instead fell squarely in the hands of administration.

"I'm extremely disappointed," said father Fouad Jomaa, who hoped to enrol his four-year-old daughter Aisha in the proposed program for this fall.

Calgary Board of Education chief superintendent Naomi Johnson said that during more than a year and a half of evaluation of a possible program her staff struggled to find proper resources — namely certified teachers — for the program. Developing a new curriculum would also have posed challenges, she said.

"We know that (the parents) are disappointed; however, I would also say it's even more disappointing to review a program that doesn't sustain and doesn't achieve objectives it needs," she said.

Johnson said the board is now pursuing possible high school Arabic courses, but a posting for teachers published online weeks ago has not received any response.



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ENGINE SIZE (LITRES)	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4
HORSEPOWER	200	191	206	206
CARGO CAPACITY (LITRES)	371	334	304	280
AIRBAGS	10	7	6	6

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IN PRAISE OF ALEX

School trustee sees great value in health bus

Efforts by staff aboard the Alex Youth Health Bus have caught the eye of at least one publicly elected school trustee, who hopes to see the program expand someday.

Half of the Calgary Board of Education schools visited by the mobile health centre are within the wards represented by trustee Pamela King, who believes the bus will prove key in helping at-risk kids.

"I think this is a better relationship for kids than just your school nurse who comes in once a week," she said. "It's absolutely invaluable."

There are no current plans to expand the Alex bus fleet, but King said the program is one-of-a-kind and other assistance groups may soon follow along.

"Hopefully, this sets a precedent," she said.

JEREMY NOLAIS

Riding the Alex Youth Health Bus

First of its kind in Canada Dozens of students get treatment in parking lots of high schools each week Staff dispel sexual-health myths, provide counselling

JEREMY NOLAIS
@METRONEWS.CA

Deeanna Erickson sees her doctor all the time but rarely visits a traditional health clinic.

The 18-year-old Calgary high-school student leads a busy life. After attending classes at Discovering Choices school, dating and trying to plan for her future, there are often few hours to spare in the day.

Couple that with her ongoing recovery from a recent ovarian-cancer scare and she admits things can seem overwhelming at times.

Thankfully, the Alex Community Health Centre has helped ease the load with its new Youth Health Bus.

Each week, a team of health professionals travels aboard the graffiti-covered rig to eight schools where students tend to come from low-income backgrounds, providing everything from routine checkups to counselling for mental-health struggles.

"It's amazing," Erickson said. "I just feel like they care and come to you instead of you having to go somewhere else."

Students can sign up in advance and get treatment or referrals for a variety of ailments and concerns. Others just come aboard to chat about what's on their mind.

"Whatever they say about their situation, we try do something," youth worker Lyndon Ulmer said.

For bus physician Dr. Ann Darragh and registered nurse Christie Rogalsky, the mobile clinic gives them an opportunity to really get to know their young patients.

"We build relationships," Darragh said. "I think in the old-fashioned family doctor's office you might have done that, but these days many people don't even have a doctor."

Erickson specifically credits bus staff with helping her overcome an infection that developed at the site of a surgical incision made during her bout with cancer. The team has also given her guidance on sexual health.

"We need more programs like this," she said. "What they do here for us is incredible."

The Alex

- **The Alex Youth Health Bus** is on the move four days per week, stopping at Lester B. Pearson and John Diefenbaker schools on Monday; Crescent Heights and James Fowler on Tuesday; Discovering Choices and Lord Beaverbrook on Wednesday; and, finally, Jack James and Forest Lawn on Thursday.
- **The Alex team also helps** students with non-medical needs, often setting up food-hamper deliveries or other social-assistance appointments.
- **More information about** the Alex Youth Health Bus can be found at thealex.ca or by calling 403-266-2622.

▶ On the outside, the Alex Community Health Bus draws attention with its radical graffiti. On the inside, it has been retrofitted so that staff can help students with their health concerns.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

"We become their primary care office on wheels. A lot of them think it's really cool. They will say, 'I would never go to a doctor's office but I will totally come here.'"

PETRA BORQUI, ALEX HEALTH PROGRAM LEAD

IN THE LIGHT OF TRUTH

THE GRAIL MESSAGE

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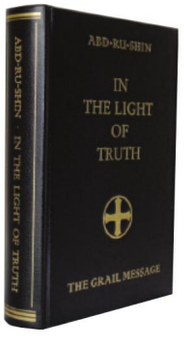

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JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Pregnant teen swears by Calgary's youth bus

Stephanie Dyck is 30 weeks pregnant, in school and has been offered little support from her baby's father. She's 19.

"My main thing is thinking, Can I do this," she said. "Yes, there's a lot of questions and a lot of worry that comes with it, too."

Dyck sought help from the Alex Youth Health Bus and has quickly become friends with Dr. Ann Darragh and the rest of the team.

"My parents are great, but they don't necessarily know how to raise a child on their own because they had each other," she said. "The people here can help guide you through talking with your parents about situations like this."

Support from the Alex has allowed Dyck to continue with her classes as well. And though raising her child will take precedence for the time being, she hasn't given up on her dreams, either.

"I have always wanted to be a writer ... maybe it will just be a weekend thing for now," she said with a laugh. JEREMY NOLAIS

Teen support

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

- **Before the launch of the** Alex, Stephanie Dyck used the service on board the centre's adult-focused bus, in operation since 2002.
- **Through its buses and** main centre in northeast Calgary, the Alex has helped more than 80 young mothers.

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Alderman excludes Tsuu T'ina chief from fire talks

METRO FILE

▶ Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart

A landfill fire on the Tsuu T'ina Nation has long been extinguished, but tensions between Chief Sandford Big Plume and one Calgary alderman have flared up.

Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart held a town-hall meeting with her Ward 13 constituents Tuesday to discuss concerns raised by south Calgary residents who were blanketed by smoke during the three days the Tsuu T'ina landfill fire was burning.

Colley-Urquhart thanked those who attended the meeting in a release issued Thursday and stated she will be working to address the many issues raised in the coming weeks.

Big Plume also issued a release in which he outlined some of the steps being taken by the nation and indicated he was never invited to attend Colley-Urquhart's meeting.

"That alderman did not make contact with Tsuu T'ina during or after the fire, nor did she return our call offering an update during the fire," read the statement. "As such, I find her claims to be interested in greater communication with Tsuu T'ina surprising."

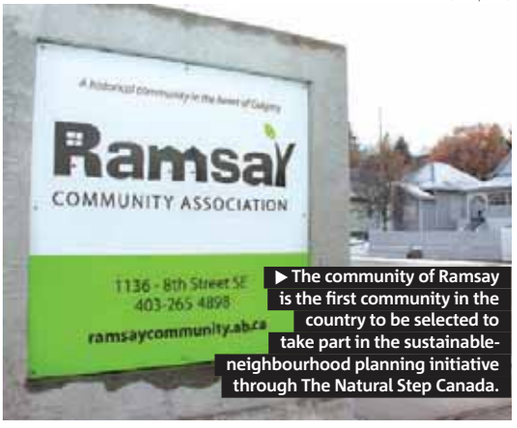
Both parties indicated in their statements that were not available for further questioning.

METRO

Ramsay to pilot sustainable community program

A long-term plan for the area will be developed ◐ Ramsay selected out of a number of other communities

KATIE TURNER/METRO



▶ The community of Ramsay is the first community in the country to be selected to take part in the sustainable-neighbourhood planning initiative through The Natural Step Canada.

KATIE TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

The historic community of Ramsay will soon have a long-term vision outlining the necessary steps to creating a sustainable neighbourhood.

The Natural Step Canada, a non-profit group that helps organizations and individuals adopt sustainability, selected the southeast community as a pilot in developing the sustainable neighbourhood planning initiative.

Senior advisor John Purkis said long-term-vision plans such as Imagine Calgary don't necessarily have traction at the community level.

"Doing a little bit of research, we found there was a need to develop a new resource for community associations, neighbourhood groups, so that they could engage their citizens in a conversation about the future of their communities," he said.

Ramsay Community Association president Kevin Cunningham said they were thrilled to be selected.

"We're all pretty excited. It's a big win for Ramsay," he said. "People want to get to work."

Ramsay will receive $100,000 in kind from The Natural Step Canada.

The Natural Step

- At the end of the process, documents will be made available to communities across Alberta to use in sustainable planning.
- The Natural Step Canada has also worked with the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association.
- The Natural Step was founded in 1989 in Sweden and now has projects in 18 countries.

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Fire violations force out Leduc condo residents

Unclear at this time whether evacuation is temporary or permanent ◐ Reports detail 'many, many dozens' of violations, says Leduc fire chief ◐ Construction on Phase 2 of the condo complex has been halted

MCINTYRE
@METRONEWS.CA

One year after moving into his first home, Chris Melanson is being forced out.

The Leduc resident is one of 150 people being evacuated from a condo complex by March 31 due to what fire officials say are "critical life-safety concerns."

A detailed list of fire- and building-code violations includes issues with the fire alarms, the sprinkler system, emergency access and more, Leduc fire chief Ernie Polsom said Thursday.

Occupancy of the 80 suites in Phase 1 was granted in February 2011, at which time standards were met, said Polsom.

HEATHER MCINTYRE/METRO

▶ Residents of the Bellavera Green condo complex are being evacuated due to the building's fire-code violations.

"All of the problems didn't exist when they moved in," he said. "Much of this is a morphing and emerging situation."

Non-compliances were first discovered in November.

The city stepped in with temporary safety measures, including a 24-hour fire watch, when the owner and developer did not.

To date, $150,000 has been spent, a number Polsom expects to raise to $300,000.

The city is providing what help it can, but some residents aren't sure where they will go.

"I honestly don't know," said Melanson, 27. "I think we should have never been allowed to purchase the units."

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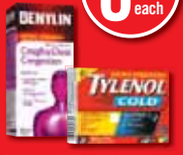

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Harper denies campaign dirty tricks

Opposition likens tactics to Nixon and Watergate
Liberals say phone calls may have cost them seats

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS/FILE

▶ Interim Liberal leader Bob Rae wants an investigation of "the whole messy, tangled web."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper insists the Conservative party had nothing to do with a dirty-tricks campaign aimed at discouraging opposition supporters from voting in last spring's election.

But New Democrats and Liberals say that given his party's history of illegal or questionable campaign tactics, they aren't buying it.

They say the latest revelations are more proof that the Conservatives have systematically cheated and subverted the democratic process in order to win elections.

They're equating the matter to the notorious Watergate scandal that toppled former U.S. president Richard Nixon, and they're demanding a full criminal investigation.

New Democrat MP Pat Martin predicted the magnitude of the scam "will be enough to make Richard Nixon blush."

The opposition charges came Thursday after a company that did campaign work for Conservatives, including Harper, was linked to harassing or misleading automated phone calls received by voters in some 18 hotly contested ridings just prior to the May 2 election.

Edmonton-based RackNine Inc. confirmed Thursday its automated dialling service was used to deliver the phoney messages and that Elections Canada and the police are investigating.

"I was shocked and dismayed to learn that some party had used our services to try and disrupt voting during the 2011 federal election," RackNine CEO Matt Meier said in an email to The Canadian Press.

"We are committed to ensuring that those who misused our services will face the full penalty of law and will continue to work proactively with Elections Canada and all law enforcement agencies to help identify the culprits."

The RCMP refused to confirm or deny it's part of an investigation, but said it may work with government departments or agencies if it's asked.

For his part, Harper denied any knowledge of the scams.

"I have absolutely no knowledge on anything about these calls but, obviously, if there's anyone who has done anything wrong, we expect that they will face the full consequences of the law," he told reporters during a visit to Iqaluit.

He added that "our party has no knowledge of these calls. They are not part of our campaign."

Conservative party campaign manager Jenni Byrne said her party "ran a clean and ethical campaign and would never tolerate such activity," although she left open the possibility that a rogue local party worker may have been involved.

"Voter suppression is extremely serious and if anything improper occurred those responsible should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law," she said in a written statement.

However, opposition parties scoffed at the notion of a rogue Tory acting independently in ridings from Nova Scotia to Manitoba.

The NDP's Martin said the Tories are "laying the foundation for throwing some kid under the bus" when it's clear there's been "a massive conspiracy to defraud the electoral system."

Opposition MPs noted that whoever organized the calls had to have access to lists that identified each voter's party preference — something typically only available to local and national party campaign headquarters.

Moreover, they noted that this is not the first time the Conservative party has been caught playing fast and loose with election law or rules of fair play.

Last December, the party was castigated by the Speaker of the House of Commons for conducting a "reprehensible" phone campaign in the Montreal riding of Liberal Irwin Cotler which falsely suggested the MP was about to step down.

"The party was not involved with these calls and if anyone on a local campaign was involved they will not play a role in a future campaign."
JENNI BYRNE
CONSERVATIVE PARTY CAMPAIGN MANAGER

A month earlier, the Conservative party and its fundraising arm pleaded guilty to exceeding the party's spending limit during the 2006 election campaign, through an elaborate scheme in which the party funnelled money for national ads through 67 local candidates. Charges against four top party officials were dropped as part of a plea bargain.

Interim Liberal leader Bob Rae said "the whole messy, tangled web" needs to be investigated. And he laid the blame for all of them squarely on Harper.

"What this suggests is a deeply troubling pattern of dirty tricks and systematic attempts to subvert the democratic process," Rae said in an email.

"A party whose entire approach to politics is negative ... is responsible for a toxic and poisonous political culture. It's in this culture that dirty tricks thrive. Richard Nixon gave birth to Donald Segretti. Mr. Harper gives birth to these tricks as well. The fish rots from the head."

Segretti was a dirty-tricks specialist in the infamous 1972 Nixon campaign. He spread rumours, harassed opponents and distributed phoney campaign literature aimed at discrediting Democrats. In 1974, his illegal efforts won him a six-month jail sentence.

Harper refused to concede any pattern to his party's behaviour, saying "all of these are different" controversies.

Martin said the phoney robocall ploy was used in at least eight ridings held by the NDP, in addition to almost a dozen Liberal ridings. While the NDP held onto most of its seats, Martin said the ploy may have cost it one seat in Edmonton and another in Nova Scotia.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Robocalls

- The robocalls falsely advised voters that Elections Canada had changed the location of their polling stations.
- In other instances, voters received harassing late-night or early-morning calls that purported to be from an opposition campaign office.

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Feds dole out $27M for adult education in North

PM to boost employment skills for high school dropouts in Arctic
Critics say more money needed

Prime Minister Stephen Harper flew to a frigid Iqaluit to deliver $27 million for adult education in the North, an attempt to help high-school dropouts qualify for jobs.

The money will be spread over five years, and shared by three colleges, one in each of the territories.

"By improving access to adult basic education, we are giving Northerners the tools they need to seek higher education and secure employment in sectors that contribute to Canada's economic growth," Harper said in a statement.

Part of the funding was announced in last June's budget, which put $9 million over two years to adult basic education. Thursday's announcement extends the funding time frame and increases the annual allotment slightly.

Harper has frequently stressed that education levels among aboriginal peoples need to improve if they are ever to find prosperity. But he is under intense pressure from native leaders to ante up serious money.

That pressure may have persuaded Harper to spend a day at a short news conference and a photo op on the ice at -26 C.

"We try to obviously make our announcements in the areas where the announcements are most relevant," he said in explaining the northern jaunt.

Following the indoor formalities, Harper rode in a convoy of seven snowmobiles that drove out about 500 metres over the rough and bumpy sea ice of Frobisher Bay to a small camp set up by members of the Canadian Rangers.

Back in the south, the Liberal aboriginal affairs critic called Harper's announcement paltry compared with the needs of the North.

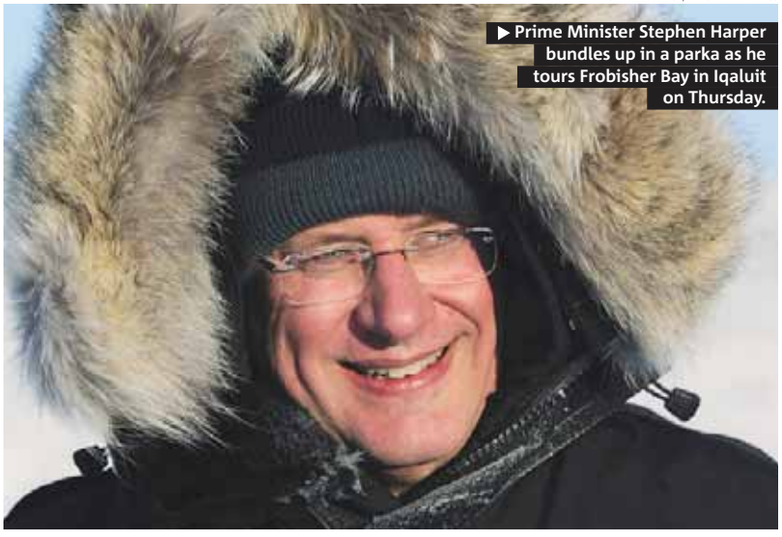
"The prime minister's drive-by announcement today provided nowhere near the kind of resources for education, social housing, mental health, drug treatment and food security desperately needed in the north in order to improve the health, education and well-being of northern Canadians," MP Carolyn Bennett said in a release.

"If Canada is to truly benefit from the opening of the Arctic, there must be focused federal investment in northern communities."

The federal government has been working with the Assembly of First Nations for more than a year to put together a complete overhaul of the funding and governance scheme for education on reserves. But despite holding a high-profile summit with First Nations leaders in January, Harper has yet to contribute anything concrete to improving schooling for aboriginals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Prime Minister Stephen Harper bundles up in a parka as he tours Frobisher Bay in Iqaluit on Thursday.

By the numbers

- **Inuit Tapiriit Kapanami**, a non-profit group, has estimated that only a quarter of Inuit students finish high school.
- **The 2006 census** suggests the level is about half that. Regardless, the graduation rate is drastically lower than that of the rest of the population.
- **Nunavut Arctic College** is receiving $11 million of the funding. Yukon College is getting $300,000 so far and can apply for more over the coming five years. And Aurora College is getting $620,000 with the potential for more.

Toronto officer charged with second-degree murder

A Toronto police officer charged with manslaughter in the shooting of a Toronto man in 2010 has had his charge upgraded to second-degree murder.

Const. David Cavanagh, who was with the emergency task force, was originally charged with manslaughter in the death of Eric Osawe, 26.

Osawe was fatally shot after police arrived with a search warrant and a heavily armed tactical unit at a west-Toronto apartment on Sept. 29, 2010.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Judges, ex-Tory MP among those decrying crime bill

A group including a victims' advocate, two retired judges and an ex-Conservative MP say Canadians will be more fearful and less safe five years from now under criminal justice changes being made by the Harper government.

The bill is in the final stages of being approved by the Conservative-dominated Senate.

Opponents are making a last-ditch appeal to the government to base its policies on evidence, not "gut feeling."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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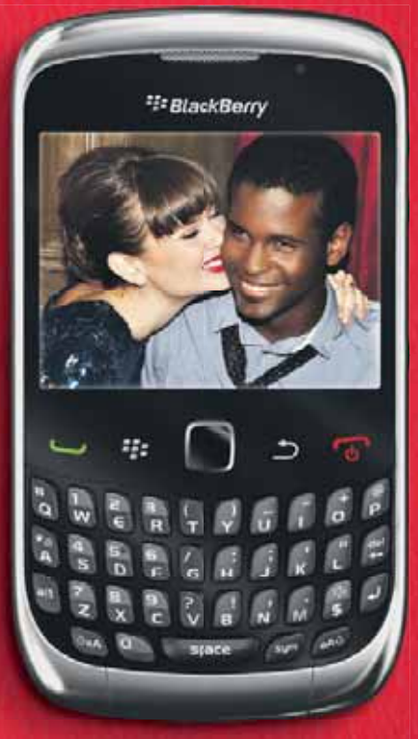

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RAHMAT GUL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Afghans shout anti-U.S. slogans in Laghman province, east of Kabul, on Thursday.

AFGHAN RIOTS

Obama apologizes for Qur'an burning

President Barack Obama apologized Thursday for the burning of copies of the Muslim holy book at a U.S. military base this week, as violent protests raging nationwide led a man dressed in an Afghan army uniform to kill two U.S. troops.

The Afghans' furious response to the Qur'an burning — three days of riots in several cities — reflected the anger at what they perceive as foreign forces' disrespect for Afghan laws and culture.

In a letter sent to Afghan President Hamid Karzai, Obama expressed his "regret and apologies over the incident in which religious materials were unintentionally mishandled," a White House spokesman said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

7 marines killed in night training exercise

- Crash follows several recent accidents involving marines in California
- Three killed in separate helicopter crashes at Camp Pendleton

Seven U.S. marines were killed when two helicopters collided in the California desert during night training exercises, the latest of several Marine Corps training accidents in the region.

"We're still gathering a lot of details as the sun comes up," said Lt. Maureen Dooley with the Miramar Air Base in California.

The crash happened around 8 p.m. Wednesday and involved an AH-1W Cobra that carried two crew members and a UH-1 Huey utility helicopter carrying five service members from the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing.

It will be at least 24 hours before the marine corps releases the names of those killed.

COURTESY OF U.S. MARINE CORPS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ This undated image provided by the U.S. Marine Corps shows a UH-1 Huey helicopter. One of the two helicopters involved in the crash was similar to this one.

The aircraft collided in a remote portion of the Yuma Training Range Complex.

The U.S. military and its allies train in the hot, desert area ringed by mountains because the conditions are similar to Iraq.

The AH-1W is considered the marine corps' main attack helicopter. The UH-1Y is replacing the aging version of the Huey utility helicopter first used during the Vietnam War.

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RDSP FACTS

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Please note that pre-registration is required. If materials are needed in alternative formats, notice must be given at least 7 days prior to the event. If deaf and hard of hearing individuals require interpretive services, they must provide at least 10 days notice, and ILRCC will seek appropriate services, if available.

This information session is available in English only. Afin d'obtenir des renseignements en français, veuillez communiquer avec Gilbert Brunette par téléphone, au 613-563-2581 Ext. 11, ou par courriel à liaison@vac-ilc.ca ou visiter le www.vacanada.ca

The RDSP is designed to help people with disabilities and their families save for the future.

Calgary

Canada

Stepmom accused of running girl to death

ETOWAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/AP

▶ Savannah Hardin

An Alabama woman is under guard at a hospital after she gave birth following her arrest in the death of her nine-year-old stepdaughter, who authorities say was forced to run for three hours as punishment for lying about eating a candy bar.

Jessica Mae Hardin, 27, was transferred from the Etowah County Detention Center to a hospital on Wednesday, sheriff's office spokeswoman Natalie Barton said.

Hardin and her mother-in-law, 46-year-old Joyce Hardin Garrard, were arrested and charged with murder on Wednesday in the death of Savannah Hardin.

Savannah had a bladder condition that meant she shouldn't have chocolate because of the caffeine content, said Etowah County District Attorney Jimmie Harp. He said there is no evidence that the condition contributed to her death.

Her death was ruled a homicide by a state pathologist and preliminary reports show she was extremely dehydrated and had a very low sodium level — a chemical necessary to prevent seizures and dehydration.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drunk dad gets probation

Allowed nine-year-old daughter to drive van since he had been drinking

A U.S. man who allowed his nine-year-old daughter to drive him around because he had been drinking was sentenced Thursday to two years of probation.

Shawn Weimer pleaded guilty in December to second-degree child abuse and allowing an unlicensed minor to operate a motor vehicle. He pleaded guilty on the condition he'd receive no jail time.

Weimer was arrested Oct. 8 when police pulled over his van and found his daughter behind the wheel.

Weimer said he made a mistake in asking his daughter to drive, but that he had been thinking about how he used to drive at his family's farm and junkyard when he was her age.

The girl testified in November that her father had consumed half a bottle of whiskey that night and that she had agreed to drive but felt a "little scared." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Speaker narrowly missed U.K. pol brawl

Bar where the incident took place is one of several watering holes inside the renowned Parliament buildings

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ Commons Speaker Andrew Scheer in Ottawa last June. Scheer missed witnessing a dust-up between two UK MPs during a visit this week to London.

While visiting the Mother of all Parliaments in London, Canadian House of Commons Speaker Andrew Scheer just missed the mother of all punch-ups between two British MPs.

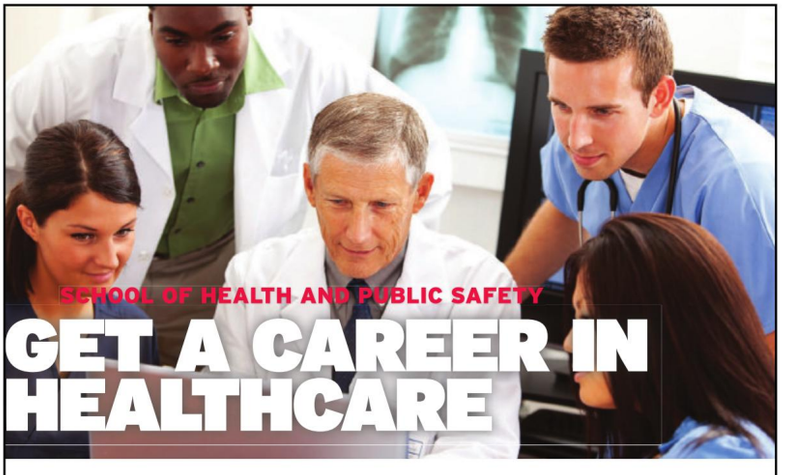
Scheer, who led a delegation this week to the British House of Commons, had left the Strangers Bar within the British Parliament before the dust started to fly between Labour MP Eric Joyce and Conservative MP Stuart Andrew.

"He left earlier and read about in the paper like everyone else," Heather Bradley, a spokesperson for the Speaker's office in Ottawa, told the Star Thursday, adding that Scheer was on his way back to Ottawa.

According to reports, Joyce, the member for Falkirk, was overly refreshed and began shouting at Tory MPs, spilling his drink on some, before head-butting Andrew, the Tory MP for Pudsey.

Labour said Joyce has been booted from the opposition party's parliamentary caucus until police finish investigating the one-man melee.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Terminal attack in Pakistan kills dozen

- Car bomb rattles the border town of Peshawar
- No group has claimed responsibility for the blast

Dilawar Khan's son had stopped off at his tea shop on his way back from school when a powerful car bomb exploded outside it. The 12-year-old was among the dozen killed in Thursday's blast in Peshawar, Pakistan, at a bus terminal for passengers wanting to travel to the lawless border regions with Afghanistan.

The explosion tore through a dozen vehicles waiting to transport passengers from the city of Peshawar to other areas of the country. Some of the minibuses were blackened and destroyed. There were 32 wounded, including women and children, officials said.

In the chaos, Khan initially thought his other son had been killed, but he turned up at home later.

"What have my sons done wrong," said the 45-year-old shopkeeper, beating his face with his hands.

Violence has dropped off in Peshawar and some other areas of Pakistan over the past year following offensives against the Pakistani Taliban in the northwest. But bombings and shootings still occur with regularity, especially in the border regions, and no one is predicting victory against the militants.

No group claimed responsibility for the blast. The dead included two children, including Khan's son.

Peshawar is located close to the Afghan border, the main sanctuary for Pakistani Taliban fighters at war with the government.

The car bomb was loaded with nearly 45 kilograms of explosives, city police chief Siraj Ahmed said.

It's unclear why the bus terminal was targeted. Most militant attacks are aimed at security force or government targets, but markets and other public places have also been hit, presumably to create chaos and add to perceptions that the government is unable to provide basic security. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Pakistani volunteers help an injured boy as he arrives at a local hospital in Peshawar, Pakistan, on Thursday.

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Argentina mourns crash victims

50 dead in train accident Government promises investigation

Argentina's deadliest train accident in decades was foreseeable and preventable, the nation's auditor general complained Thursday, saying there had been years of failed safety tests and other problems.

Rail-safety experts, meanwhile, said modern trains are built to withstand the kind of hard stop that killed 50 passengers and injured more than 700 in Buenos Aires Wednesday.

President Cristina Fernandez declared two days of mourning and sent at least four cabinet ministers out to give news conferences describing the government's response to the tragedy. None took questions.

The train's motorman, Marcos Antonio Cordoba, 28, remained in intensive care. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDUARDO DI BAIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ People in Buenos Aires look at lists of the injured.

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Mubarak defiant in letter to court

Egypt's former President Hosni Mubarak told the court trying him for complicity in the killing of protesters during last year's uprising that he was saddened by what he called "baseless" claims against him and expressed confidence in the judicial system and history to clear his name.

Mubarak's remarks were made in a memo published in the Tahrir newspaper on Thursday, a day after the former president's defence lawyers delivered their closing remarks in a seven-month trial that has transfixed the nation.

In the letter, which filled three columns on the daily's front page, Mubarak, 83, struck a defiant tone, speaking in the third person and telling the court he has worked to defend his nation's honour and his people's blood.

"The unjust accusations and the baseless allegations I am facing sadden me. I am not someone who would shed his people's blood. I have spent my life defending them."

Mubarak is charged with complicity in the killing of nearly 900 protesters in the uprising that forced him out of office last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Anne Frank baptized?

Mormon church reportedly posthumously baptized Holocaust survivor to help her into heaven

A new claim has surfaced that the Mormon church has posthumously baptized a Holocaust victim, this time Anne Frank.

The allegations come just a week after The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints apologized when it was brought to light that the parents of Holocaust survivor and Jewish rights advocate Simon Wiesenthal were posthumously baptized by church members in Arizona and Utah in late January.

Researcher Helen Radkey, a former Mormon who revealed the Wiesenthal baptisms, said this week she found Frank's name in proxy baptism records dated Feb. 18, showing the ritual was performed in the Santo Domingo Temple in the Dominican Republic.

"The Church keeps its word and is absolutely firm in its commitment to not accept the names of Holocaust victims for proxy baptism," the Salt Lake City-based church said in an apology.

Larry Bair, the president of the Mormon temple of Santo Domingo, said Thursday he had looked into the reports but was unable to verify that Frank had been baptized.

If it did occur, Bair told the AP, "it was a mistake." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

▶ Anne Frank died in a concentration camp. Her famous diary was published in 1947.

Living. Colour

▶ Leslie Perez enjoys the velcro wall during the Gay Straight Alliance carnival at Gulf Coast State College in Panama City, Fla., Thursday.

ANDREW WARDLOW/THE NEWS HERALD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quite a sticky situation

Ex-mistress gets hands on Edwards sex tape

The former mistress of John Edwards has won ownership of a sex tape she filmed with the former presidential candidate as he was running for the White House.

Rielle Hunter sued former Edwards aide Andrew Young and his wife over the intimate tape and other personal items the couple claimed she abandoned. Hunter lived with the Youngs in 2007, while she was pregnant with Edwards' baby. A book published by Andrew Young has described what's on the tape. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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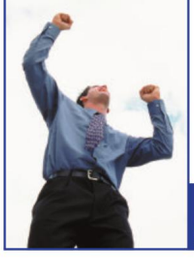

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PAWEL DWULIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Finance Minister Jim Flaherty answers questions from members of the media in Toronto on Thursday.

'Draconian' cuts not for us: Flaherty

Budget won't follow Europe's lead
Yet agencies told to tighten belts

Ottawa will take a moderate approach to government cost-cutting in the budget instead of following in Europe's austerity-driven footsteps, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Thursday.

"We are not one of the countries, many of them in Europe, that have run up deficits for a long period of time, accumulated substantial debt and must really act dramatically — some of them in a draconian way in order to get their house in order again," Flaherty said.

The federal government grew as part of the Conservatives' economic action plan during the global recession and "we will have to have some moderation of that," he added.

Flaherty's comments seemingly run counter to signals that he's preparing a painful, cost-slashing budget next month. Government departments and agencies have been ordered to cut spending by up to 10 per cent. Few details of the cuts have been made public and the opposition parties are calling on the Conservatives to come clean about their plans to curb costs.

"You never quite know what their political game is. Possibly they're trying to get everybody all frightened and thinking there'll be massive cuts, and then if they just have moderate cuts, everybody will breathe a sigh of relief," said Liberal Treasury Board critic John McCallum.

Flaherty dismissed the need for corporate tax hikes. He said once governments get spending under control they don't have to raise taxes. The budget is also expected to issue a firm policy direction on old-age security centred around raising the retiree collection age. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Court halts iPad proceeding

Lawyers say a Shanghai court has suspended proceedings in a lawsuit by a Chinese electronics maker against Apple Inc. over use of the iPad trademark in China.

The Guangdong High Court is due to hear an appeal by Apple on Feb. 29 against a lower-court decision that favoured Proview. Proview was seeking an injunction to stop Apple from selling iPads in Shanghai. The companies are feuding over whether Proview sold the rights to the mainland Chinese iPad trademark to Apple in a deal in 2009.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Keystone pipeline inevitable: Governor

BILL GRAVELAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer at his office at the Montana legislature on Wednesday in Helena. He believes the Keystone XL pipeline will be built next year.

Montana's governor says the Keystone XL pipeline from Alberta's oilsands to the Gulf Coast will eventually be built, and he blames the delay on "jackasses" in Washington who have only recently discovered the issue.

"Ninety per cent of these jackasses that are complaining about the Keystone pipeline in Washington, D.C., one year ago wouldn't have even known where the Keystone was," said Gov. Brian Schweitzer, a Democrat.

The pipeline, which would extend an existing oil line that delivers crude to the U.S. Midwest, has become a major political flashpoint as U.S. President Barack Obama seeks re-election.

Backers of the Trans-Canada project say it would create thousands of jobs and supplant crude imports. Critics worry it would increase dependence on "dirty" oilsands crude and cause ecological harm to the American heartland in the event of a spill. A decision by the U.S. State Department was delayed until early 2013 to work out a new route. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

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+ 30.03 (12,731.28)	+ 0.28¢ (100.24¢ US)	+ 1.55¢ US ($107.83 US)	$2.67 US (+ 2.3¢ US)	$1,786.30 US (+ $15 US)

Canadians rely heavily on home value: BoC

Canadians are becoming increasingly vulnerable to a housing correction, exposing them to a perfect storm of high debt and falling assets, the Bank of Canada warns.

In a book of four research papers released Thursday, the central bank suggests many Canadians have constructed their finances on a house of cards, with ever rising home values the key and vulnerable support.

The bank economists point out that home prices have risen sharply in the past dozen or so years along with debt, as households needed both bigger mortgages to buy homes and used equity from higher home values to finance other purchases.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Recession predicted across eurozone

Half the economies in the 17-nation eurozone are forecast to enter a recession this year, raising concerns that government austerity programs introduced to combat unsustainable debt levels are holding back growth.

The European Commission, the European Union's executive body, forecast a 0.3 per cent contraction in the eurozone economy for 2012, with Greece's economy leading the way downward with a massive 4.4 per cent decline.

In its last forecast in November, the commission had predicted a 0.5 per cent expansion across the eurozone economy following last year's 1.4 per cent growth. The difference this time is that it now expects the economies of Belgium, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, the Netherlands and Slovenia to contract in 2012, not just Greece and Portugal.

The overall decline is limited by resilient activity the eurozone's two-largest economies, Germany and France. Growth in Germany for the coming year is expected to hit 0.6 per cent while France is forecast to grow by 0.4 per cent.

The new forecasts will add to fears about Europe's prosperity and that government cutbacks to rein in spending and deficit levels are having a negative impact.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YVES LOGGHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Olli Rehn, European commissioner for economic and monetary affairs, speaks at the European Commission headquarters in Brussels on Thursday.

Bailouts

- **Three eurozone countries** — Ireland, Portugal and Greece — have already received bailouts.
- **Only Ireland's economy** offers a forecast growth of 0.5 per cent this year on top of 2011's 0.9 per cent growth.
- **The lending capacity of** the eurozone's bailout funds is capped at $662 billion US, of which more than $198 billion has been promised to Greece, Ireland and Portugal.

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WILL HIS FIRST WORD BE SHOTGUN?

THE METRO LIST

MIKE BENHAIM
METRO

1 Priorities: Even in recession, our society manages to fund organizations like the Kinsey Institute's Condom Use Research Team (CURT). The Journal of Sexual Health recently published research that states, "Condom misuse is an epidemic." Kinsey's Richard Crosby went so far as to say, "We underestimate how complicated condom use can be." Really? Have we tried funding an organization that prevents dummies from having sex?

2 Roll up the RIM: This week RIM announced the launch of its BlackBerry PlayBook OS 2.0. It includes many things that should have been on the original, but they are still slightly behind their competitors, primarily pertaining to apps. My thought? How about an app that teaches people how to use a condom?

3 Sorry Charlie: Charlie Sheen wrote a letter to Ashton Kutcher, apologizing for recent "disrespectful" comments. Sheen's management stated, "Why is anyone still listening to Charlie?"

4 Auto child: Toronto couple Robbie and Esther Stern gave birth to a baby boy in the front seat of their Dodge Avenger. What happens now? Do they get free Dodges for life? Is the kid automatically born with a driver's licence? Free gas? Either way, it'll make a great ad: "Dodge Avenger: From one generation to the next!"

5 Wise-guy witness: After years of suspicion that organized-crime groups were controlling public-works contracts in Quebec, an inquiry has finally been launched. Now Quebec is asking the public to help gather evidence via anonymous email or toll-free phone calls. In unrelated news, the Canadian government has cut funding to the witness-protection program.

6 Dating for dummies: Canada is on the reality-show bandwagon: Canada's Got Talent airs next week, and auditions for The Bachelor Canada are underway. Next, I suggest a combo show wherein the bachelor actually chooses his companion based on her talent. Women can juggle, dance or sing (my money's on the contortionist). Hey, maybe they can finally find a partner for Susan Boyle.

7 Poetic justice: A fugitive, who had been convicted of 12 counts of sexual misconduct with a minor and who had appeared on America's Most Wanted, was arrested in Montreal upon returning from Venezuela. He lived in Vancouver for 10 years under an assumed Canadian identity. With a 169-year sentence looming, he probably felt he should take time off to travel. Let's hope he's imprisoned alongside other most-wanted criminals. That's something I'd pay to see.

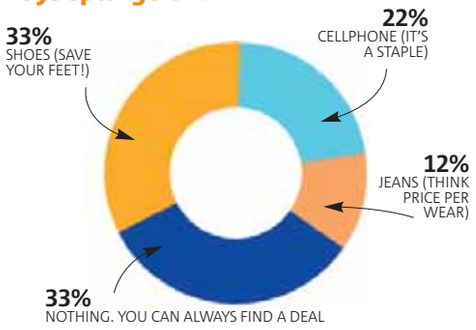
8 Academy Awards: A word of advice for the Oscars. If you win the award for best short film, please ensure your speech is shorter than the actual project.

9 Here's lookin' at you, Kid: Native Montrealers lost an icon last week when Gary (The Kid) Carter passed away at age 57. In 2003 he became the first player to enter the Baseball Hall of Fame as an Expo. The bond between Carter and Montreal was so strong that, even after playing for three other teams, he returned for one final season in 1992. He will be dearly remembered, and forever missed. RIP.

More from Mike Benhaim at metronews.ca/backbeat

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Which everyday item should you always splurge on?



Local tweets

- **@JenJB587:** Just got free tickets to the Flames vs. Canadians from my boss!!! Woop Woop!!! #yyc
- **@anothersupersta:** Hmmm there is a pair of shoes that keep calling me from @Fluevog #yyc should I answer?
- **@ToddARAMMA:** They say winter is back in the #yyc but I just don't see it.
- **@ashleymeller:** Ears rejoice! @sledisland will be announcing their 2012 line-up on Tues. I'm starting an office pool to place bets on who will headline. #yyc
- **@XOjesXO:** Just left the #yyc home and garden show. Do you see the kinds of things free food and booze will entice me to go to!?
- **@wik2010:** Guy playing Amelie music on Stephen Ave on his acordian, sure adds to the atmosphere! #yyc
- **@PeterPatko:** Weather going to crap this weekend in #yyc Mother Nature used to be so cool back in the old days... last week
- **@drstevenson:** It was the mayors idea to allow occupy calgary so give him the $100,000 bill #yyc #payforyourmistakes

GETTY IMAGES

Daily Zoom

Human water fountain

For the man who has everything

MIAMI BEACH. Fancy joining the jet set? Well, it wouldn't hurt if you got yourself this water-powered jet pack, demonstrated here at the Yacht & Brokerage Show in Florida this month.

The JetLev R200 toy for big boys propels fliers nine metres in the air by sucking up water from the sea and blasting it back out. MWN

"When I was 14, I watched James Bond fly a jet pack in Thunderball, and had then dreamt of flying one ... so I decided to invent a machine (for) mainstream personal flight."

RAYMOND LI
CANADIAN INVENTOR OF JETLEV

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▶ To fly, just add water.

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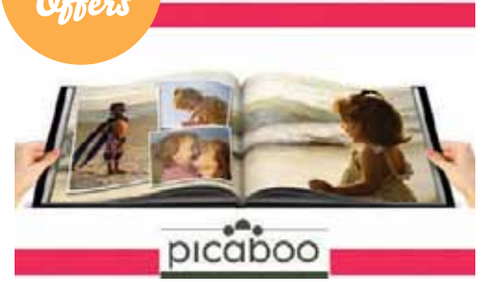

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Synopsis

- Jennifer Aniston and Paul Rudd play a big-city couple forced to downsize when he loses his job and her documentary is rejected by HBO. Forced to sell their apartment and faced with the prospect of working with his idiot brother, the pair go adopt a hippie lifestyle and move into a free love commune.

- **Ratings:**
Richard: ⊕⊕⊕⊕
Mark: ⊕⊕⊕⊕

HANDOUT

▶ In Wanderlust, Paul Rudd and Jennifer Aniston play a big-city couple who leaves it all behind to live in a commune.

Hippie hilarity

Wanderlust is the funniest movie since Bridesmaids, says Richard Crouse

The cast and script bring a freshness to the hippie satire

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN

Richard: Mark, Wanderlust is something we haven't seen for a while — a Jennifer Aniston movie that doesn't stink. In fact, it's really good. Great supporting cast, loads of laughs and a great hallucination scene. The only thing that stinks is the hippie hygiene. What did you think?

MB: Ah, but most Paul Rudd movies are pretty good. He has a great track record of choosing good scripts, and Aniston had the good sense to attach herself to it. This is really one of the funniest movies I've seen in a long time. I started laughing at the opening scene in the realtor's office and didn't stop for 90 minutes. It's smart, well-cast, timely, and I can't find any flaws. If you liked writer/director David Wain's offbeat, loopy work in The State or Wet Hot American Summer, you're going to love this picture.

RC: Agreed. I haven't laughed like that in a movie since Bridesmaids last year. Rudd dies a mirror pep talk scene that is raunchy, funny and kind of surreal. Speaking of surreal, the hallucination sequence is trippy and hilarious. I've seen loads of drug scenes in movies but this one made me feel high ... with laughter.

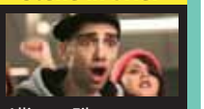
MB: The film feels like Martha Marcy May Marlene reimagined as a comedy with, yes, a Bridesmaids spirit. It's been a long while since we've seen a hippie commune satire, and it's long overdue. So much to like here — Alan Alda's acid-head paterfamilias, Malin Ackermann's love goddess, the nudist writer/winemaker, the boorish brother, his neglected trophy wife, and Justin Theroux as the cult leader lost in the '90s.

RC: I think the reason the movie works so well, aside from the very funny script, is that each of the characters you mentioned could have been the focus of the story and it still would have been a good movie. There isn't a character in the movie that feels extraneous. Also, I loved the uber hippie jokes. Where else would you find a placenta as soup stock joke?

MB: Saturday Night Live had a 'placenta helper' mock commercial some time ago that was heavily censored. But you're right – the movie gets the details right. It's an ayahuasca ceremony that they take part in, peyote being so ... 2003. And maybe that's the thrill of finally seeing Ms. Aniston in a comedy that's not only funny but original as well. She's been performing for focus groups far too long. Wanderlust may be a Hollywood movie, but it has an indie sensibility.

2 scene

Scene in brief



Alliance Films says the City of Toronto has removed 38 Goon posters ahead of the hockey movie's release Friday. A spokeswoman for Alliance says the outdoor ads feature Goon star Jay Baruchel "gesturing in a way that the city believes is inappropriate." The poster in question reportedly featured Baruchel making a sexually suggestive sign with his tongue and fingers.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Actress Pam Grier praises War Horse, Streep, Close and Davis ahead of Oscars

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Movie reviews

A Separation
Genre: Drama
Director: Asghar Farhadi
Stars: Peyman Moadi, Leila Hatami
⊕⊕⊕⊕

Unable to find a compromise between educating their daughter abroad and caring for a husband's sick father, an Iranian couple makes the decision to separate. The subtitles don't detract from the slow unraveling of this family's world as good intentions wreak havoc on the people around them. Director Asghar Farhadi proves skilled at building tension out of the seemingly small moments in this film, which won the Golden Globe for best foreign language film this week. The story asks a lot of questions about the decisions that we make in the interests of our loved ones. IAN GORMELY

Act of Valor
Genre: Action
Directors: Mike McCoy, Scott Waugh
Stars: Alex Veadov, Roselyn Sanchez
⊕⊕½

There's something simultaneously startling and uncomfortable about watching real-life Navy SEALS starring in a fictional action film based on their professional exploits: at times, Act of Valor feels like the live-action equivalent of a kid slamming his GI Joes together. The film is relatively well-made around its strange gimmick, and if it's unusually jingoistic by the standards of most post Iraq-war blockbusters, that's the whole idea: faulting the filmmakers for heroizing their subjects is sort of missing the point.
ADAM NAYMAN

Donovan's Echo
Genre: Crime
Director: Jim Cliffe
Stars: Bruce Greenwood, Danny Glover
⊕⊕½

Donovan Matheson returns home after a 30-year absence and becomes convinced that a little girl is in danger. A supernatural murder mystery and strong performances carry the film's slow pace. Donovan's Echo will test the patience of viewers who prefer more realistic fare.
IAN GORMELY

Good Deeds
Genre: Comedy/Romance
Director: Tyler Perry
Stars: Tyler Perry, Gabrielle Union, Thandie Newton
⊕

Good Deeds will make you laugh, but you'll be laughing at it rather than with it. It may also make you cry, but they will be tears of frustration at a story so predictable it makes the See Spot Run books seem complex by comparison. Director Tyler Perry is not doing audiences a good deed by releasing his latest film, Good Deeds, in general release. The melodramatic story of a rich man (Tyler Perry) who learns about love and life from a woman (Thandie Newton) who works for him isn't just a bad movie, it's what I call a 'seatbelt movie;' a film so bad you'll need a seatbelt to keep you from walking out halfway through.
RICHARD CROUSE

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Movie reviews

Goon
Genre: Comedy
Director: Mike Dowse
Stars: Seann William Scott, Jay Baruchel, Allison Pill

Mike Dowse's mighty hockey comedy splits the difference between Slapshot (gory rink violence) and the director's previous Fubar films (well-meaning boneheads trying their best not so screw up). Seann William's performance as a bouncer-turned-enforcer is a beautiful balance of guilelessness and thuggery, and the script gives him and the other actors plenty of space to breathe while still squarely hitting the necessary sports-flick beats.

ADAM NAYMAN

Baron Cohen gets warning from Oscars

CASSANDRA GARRISON
@METRO.LU
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

Comedian Sacha Baron Cohen can only show up to the Oscars on Sunday if he promises not to come dressed as General Aladee, the main character of his soon-to-be-released movie The Dictator.

The actor's tickets to the award show were pulled after the Academy got wind of Cohen's plan to show up on the red carpet decked out as Aladee, who may or may not be modeled after Muammar Gaddafi, the former ruler of Libya who was run out of his position in a civil war and killed by opposition fighters in August 2011. As Deadline reports, Cohen, who is an Academy member and one of the stars of Hugo (which is a Best Picture contender), was told he cannot attend the 84th annual Academy Awards.

However, after a bit of backlash, the Academy then said Cohen could come if, and only if, he promises not to show up in costume or promote The Dictator on the red carpet.

"We would love to have Sacha Baron Cohen at the Oscar show," an Academy spokesperson told CNN. "We have expressed [to Cohen] that we don't like our red carpet to be used as a promotional stunt. We're waiting to hear from him. We've put the ball in his court."

Knowing Cohen, this is just the type of scenario he'd love, so we're anxiously awaiting to see how he turns this awkward situation into a hilarious stunt for another upcoming movie.

Meanwhile, all the publicity is no doubt sparking plenty of interest in said film.

HANDOUT

▶ Sacha Baron Cohen as General Aladee.

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– Gare Joyce, The Globe and Mail

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It's party time

Project X director talks about his own days of partying Filming a bender isn't as fun as it seems

NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN HOLLYWOOD

When I sit down to talk to British director Nima Nourizadeh at the W Hotel in Hollywood, there's a tray full of liquor bottles and martini-making tools on the table between us. It's not even 10 in the morning. "Do you want a drink?" he offers, before joking, "This is the second tray they've brought me, by the way. I've already had one." That sense of humour makes him a perfect fit for Project X, his directorial debut, about a teenage house party that gets beyond out of control.

This movie looked like a lot of fun to make for the actors but a nightmare for the director.

I mean, honestly, it was one of the most challenging things that I've ever done. We had a short amount of time to shoot quite an insane movie. But it was like this controlled chaos, you know? It was a lot of fun, but you hit an age where you're just like, after one night of partying you just want to chill and watch TV. And for me it was like I had to keep the energy up for four and a half weeks of night shoots.

That'll certainly take a toll on you.

Oh, it did, it did. I had to stay in that schedule at the weekends as well. It was really quite an isolating experience for me. I came out here [from London] to shoot the movie, and for the time being I'm still here. I actually came out here to have a meeting, and I thought I'd be out here for a couple of weeks, and I never went back. Can you believe that? I didn't even have a send-off!

So how does the movie match up to your own party experiences?

I don't even know if I can even talk about it. (laughs) My party experiences tend to be I have an amazing time, and then I wake up. I literally wake up and I'm still at the party and no one else is there. That's happened to me loads of times, actually. And then you hear about what happened in that time period. Actually, that sounds a bit like the Hangover. (laughs) It's like people texting you and you're like, "Oh s—, that didn't happen, did it?"

Was there any concern about pulling back on content to get the R rating?

Me less than maybe the producers knew what we could and couldn't get away with. And on top of that we've got this realistic approach to the movie, so we have to touch on some things that maybe normally you wouldn't, like the drug use, some of the sex. I just wanted to do as much as possible, and I felt like kids today have seen so many things. It wasn't like when I was growing up — you had to get a VHS and that was the only way you would see some of this stuff. We didn't have the Internet. If you wanted to see some boobs you had to maybe watch a movie that was rated R. I just think this kind of material is so much more accessible to kids right now that it probably won't seem as outrageous to them as it does to someone my age.

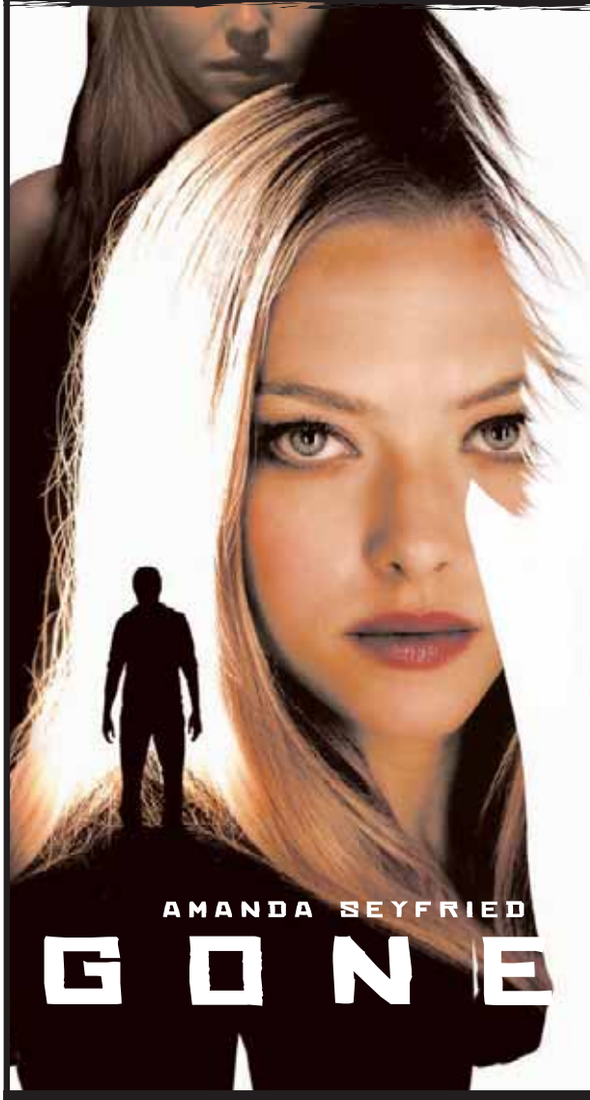
Yet there's no cigarette smoking in the movie, from what I could see.

You might actually see one. (laughs) No no no. I'm not sure if it was a conscious thing or not, but we just never really wanted to show it. Like, there's nothing really glamorous about it — I'm not saying that everything else is glamorous, but there was no value in having any cigarettes. I don't think anyone was missing out on seeing a cigarette being smoked in the film. There was too many other things to keep your eye on."

HANDOUT

▶ Project X opens next Friday.

"AN INTENSE PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER."
Mike Androsky, ENTERTAINERS



"NAIL-BITING suspense. Amanda Seyfried rocks as the THRILLS AND SURPRISES keep coming."
Jeanne Wolf, JEANNE WOLF'S HOLLYWOOD

"RIVETING."
Joel D. Amos, MOVIEFANATIC.COM

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Greg Russell, MOVIE SHOW PLUS

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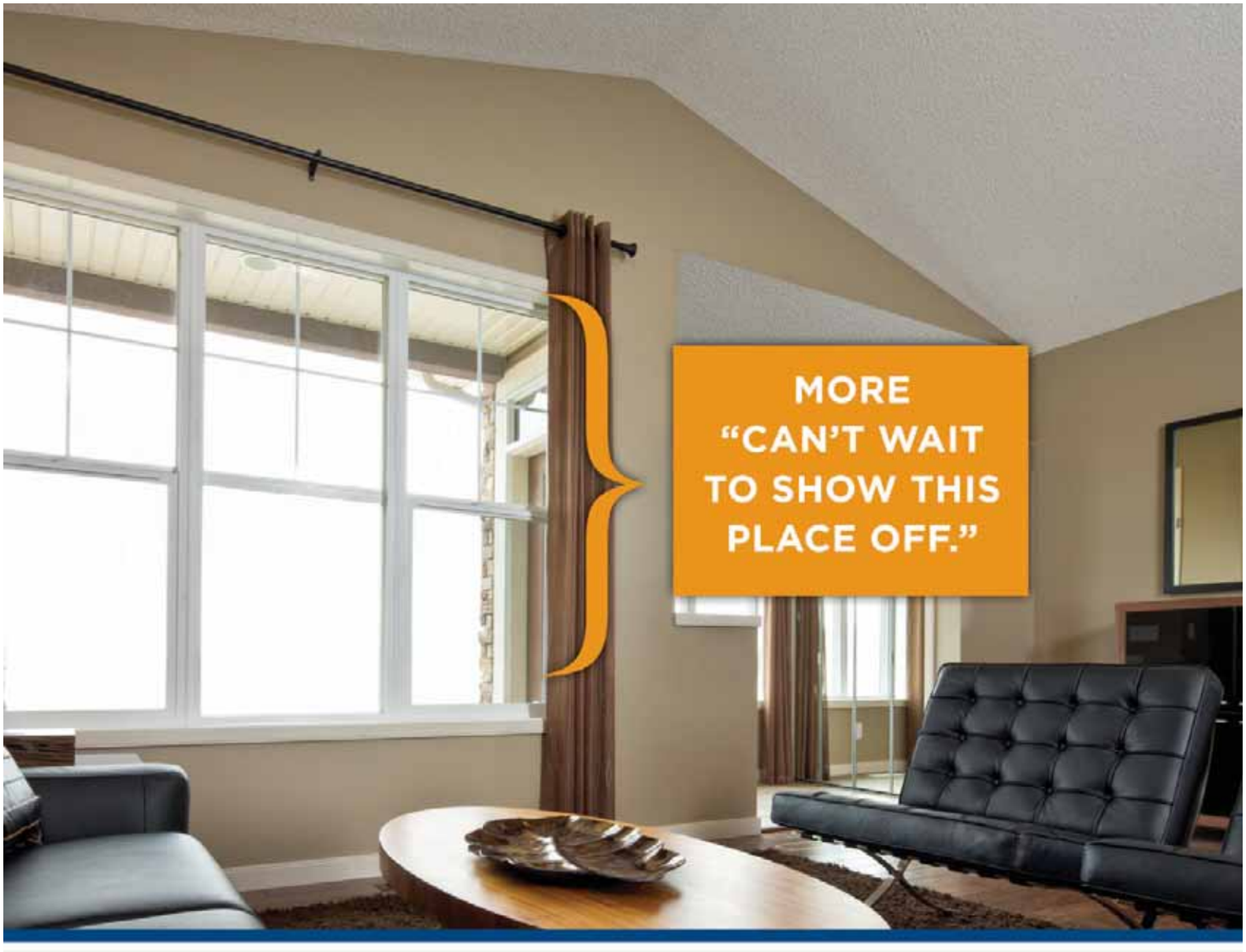
STARTS TODAY CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORY FOR LOCATIONS AND SHOWTIMES



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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., FEB. 23 TO THURS., FEB. 29. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

CANYON MEADOWS
Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail, 403-670-5444

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:55-7:25-9:55
Big Miracle (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-6:50-9:40
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG) Fri-Thu 3:40-6:45-9:35
Happy Feet Two (G) Fri-Thu 1:10
Midnight in Paris (PG) Fri-Thu 4:05-7:10
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-6:55-9:45
The Muppets (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-7
My Week With Marilyn (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50
Puss in Boots (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-7:15
Red Tails (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-9:50
Shame (18A) Fri-Thu 10
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:50-7:05-9:45
War Horse (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-4:15-8:05
We Bought a Zoo (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:55-6:45-9:40

CROWFOOT CROSSING
91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

Act of Valor (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:15-7:25-10:10
Chronicle (14A) Fri-Wed 4:05-10:10 Thu 4:05
The Descendants (14A) Fri 1:10-4:10-6:50-9:45 Sat 4:10-6:50-9:45 Sun-Thu 1:10-4:10-6:50-9:45
Ernani (STC) Sat 10:55
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:30-7:40-10:05
Gone (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-7:10-9:55
Goon (18A) Fri-Thu 2-4:35-7:50-10:30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 3:10-7-9:30 Thu 3:10-7
National Theatre Live: The Comedy of Errors (STC) Thu 8
Project X (18A) Thu 10
Safe House (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:45-10:25
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-3-5:15-7:35-10
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Fri-Wed 12:50-6:55 Thu 12:50
This Means War (PG) Fri-Tue 1:30-4-7:30-10:15 Wed 4-7:30-10:15 Thu 1:30-4-7:30-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Vow (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:20-7:05-9:40
Wanderlust (18A) No Passes Fri-Tue 1:50-4:20-7:20-9:50 No Passes Wed 4:20-7:20-9:50 No Passes Thu 1:50-4:20-7:20-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1

EAU CLAIRE MARKET
200 Barlay Parade, 403-263-3166

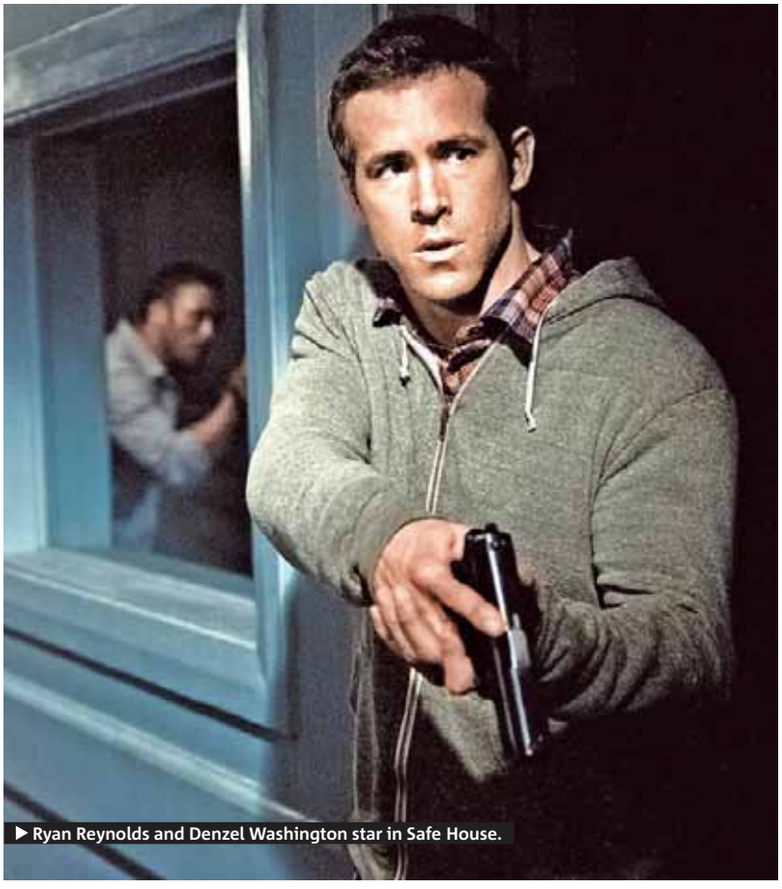
The Artist (PG) Fri 6:40-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:40-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:20
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 12:30-4-8 Mon-Thu 8
Monsieur Lazhar (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:40-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Pina 3D (G) Fri 6:30-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:20-6:30-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:10
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (STC) Fri 6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:50
The Vow (PG) Fri 7:10-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:40

EMPIRE STUDIO 16 COUNTRY HILLS
388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

Act of Valor (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:50-3:20-7:25-10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:20-7:25-10
Chronicle (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:10-3:20-6:55-9:20 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:20-6:55-9:20
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:35-3:05-7:05-9:30 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:05-7:05-9:30
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1:05-3:35-7:30-10:20 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:35-7:30-10:20
Gone (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:15-3:25-7:10-9:45 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:25-7:10-9:45
Goon (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:55-4:05-7:40-10:05 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 4:05-7:40-10:05
Hugo (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:05
Hugo 3D (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 3:10-6:30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island — An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1-3:30-7:20-9:40 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:30-7:20-9:40
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Wed 3-6:40-9:15 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Thu 3-6:40
Safe House (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1:10-4-7:15-10:10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 4-7:15-10:10
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:25-3-6:45-9:10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3-6:45-9:10
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 9:30
Tere Naal Love Ho Gaya (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:20-3:15-6:45-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:15-6:45-9:40
This Means War (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1:15-3:50-6:50-9:50 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:50-6:50-9:50
The Vow (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:45-3:45-7:10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:45-7:10
Wanderlust (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:55 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:40-6:45-9:55
The Woman in Black (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1:20-3:55-7:25-10:15 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:55-7:25-10:15

EMPIRE STUDIO 10 MACLEOD TRAIL
100-16061 MacLeod Trail, 403-974-0470

Act of Valor (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:10
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-4:40-7:50-10:30
Gone (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-6:40-9:40
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 3:30-6:30-9:15 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 3:30-6:30
Project X (18A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 10
Safe House (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:40-7:10-10
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:50-9:20
This Means War (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:20-7:40-10:15
The Vow (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:50


▶ Ryan Reynolds and Denzel Washington star in Safe House.

Wanderlust (18A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-3:20-7:20-10:20
The Woman in Black (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12:15-3:15-6:20-9:30 Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Thu 12:15-3:15-9:30

GLOBE CINEMA
617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308

Donovan's Echo (STC) Fri 7-9 Sat-Sun 1-3:20-7-9 Mon-Thu 7-9
A Separation (PG) Fri 6:50-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:10-6:50-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:10

MOVIEDOME
1039 999 36 St. N.E., 403-248-2000

Happy Feet Two (G) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:45-6:55-9:45
Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4-7:05-10
Man on a Ledge (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:50-7-9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:30-6:45-9:25
The Muppets (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:50
Puss in Boots (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:55-7:10-9:40
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:25-6:45-9:30
Tere Naal Love Ho Gaya (STC) Fri-Thu 2-6:30-9:15
We Bought a Zoo (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:40-9:35

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK
6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994

Act of Valor (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:10-10
Chronicle (14A) Fri 1:15-4-7:55-10:05 Sat 4-7:55-10:05 Sun-Wed 1:15-4-7:55-10:05 Thu 1:15-4-10:05
Contraband (14A) Fri-Thu 4-9:40
Ernani (STC) Sat 10:55
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:45-7:25-10
Gone (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:05-7:35-9:55
Goon (18A) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:20-10:40
The Grey (14A) Fri-Thu 7:15-10:15
Hugo 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 12:40-3:35-6:45-9:45 Thu 12:40-3:35-6:45
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri-Thu 1-7
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:45
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island — An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-2:45-5-7:30-9:50
The Land Before Time (STC) Sat 11
Leonardo Live (G) Sun 12:55
National Theatre Live: The Comedy of Errors (STC) Thu 8
Project X (18A) Thu 10
Safe House (14A) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:40-7:45-10:30
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Fri-Thu 12:35-2:55-5:20-7:40-10:10
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:25-7:25-10:35
This Means War (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:55-7-9:45
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) Fri-Wed 1:50-4:50-7:30-10:20 Thu 1:50-4:50-10:20
The Vow (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:35
Wanderlust (18A) No Passes Fri-Wed 12:55-3:20-5:45-8:10-10:35 No Passes Thu 1-3:20-5:45-8:10-10:30
The Woman in Black (14A) Fri-Sat 12:45-3:50-7:20-9:55 Sun 3:50-7:20-9:55 Mon-Wed 12:45-3:50-7:20-9:55 Thu 12:45-3:50-7:20

PLAZA THEATRE
1133 Kensington Rd. N.W., 403-283-3636

Surviving Progress (PG) Sun 4:15
W.E. (STC) Fri-Thu 9:15

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM
2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

Act of Valor (14A) Fri-Sun 11:55-2:35-5:20-8-10:40 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:05-9:55
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri-Sun 1-3:30 Mon-Thu 1:05-3:30
Chronicle (14A) Fri-Sun 6:35-9:25 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:25
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:25-7:05-9:50 Mon-Thu 1:15-3:40-6:55-9:35
Gone (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3-5:30-8:05-10:30 Mon-Tue 2:25-4:55-7:20-10:05 Wed 4:55-7:20-10:05 Thu 2:25-4:55-7:20-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Goon (18A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:10-5:35-8:10-10:35 Mon-Thu 2:10-4:45-7:10-10
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05 Mon-Thu 1:35
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:15-7:50-10:20 Mon-Wed 4:10-6:50-9:30 Thu 4:10-6:50
The Land Before Time (STC) Sat 11
Pata Nahi Rabb Kehdeyan Rangan Ch Raazi (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:20-7:45
Project X (18A) Thu 10
Safe House (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-7-9:55 Mon-Thu 1:20-4:25-7:25-10:15
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Fri-Sun 12:20-2:45-6:45-9:35 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:40-7:15-9:45
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 12:10-6:30 Mon-Thu 12:55-6:30
This Means War (PG) Fri-Sat 12:15-2:50-5:25-7:55-10:25 Sun 2:50-5:25-7:55-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:35-9:50
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 3:35-9:45 Mon-Thu 4-10:10
The Vow (PG) Fri-Sun 1:05-3:45-7:15-10 Mon-Thu 1-3:50-7-10:20
Wanderlust (18A) No Passes Fri-Sun 12-2:30-5:05-7:40-10:15 No Passes Mon-Tue 2:20-4:50-7:30-10:25 No Passes Wed 4:50-7:30-10:25 No Passes Thu 2:20-4:50-7:30-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
The Woman in Black (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:20-6:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 1:10-3:35-6:40-9:40

THE UPTOWN STAGE & SCREEN
612 8th Ave. S.W., 403-265-0120

Listings not available at press time.@Cinema name Theatre 6:Westhills 10
165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

The Artist (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:10-6:40-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:25
The Descendants (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:50-6:30-9:10 Mon-Thu 5:35-8
Ernani (STC) Sat 10:55
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-4-7:35-10:10 Mon-Thu 6:30-9
Goon (18A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:45-7:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 6:30-8:55
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:35-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:25-7:50
The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Mon 6:30
Safe House (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:30-7:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 6:10-8:50
This Means War (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:25-7:15-9:50 Mon-Thu 6:20-8:40
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (STC) Fri 12:50-3:40-7:25-10:20 Sat 3:40-7:25-10:20 Sun 12:50-3:40-7:25-10:20 Tue-Thu 5:20-8:05
The Vow (PG) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:10-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:05-8:35
Wanderlust (18A) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:10-4:20-7:10-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:40-8:20

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…mber Calling[4] **UNLIMITED** Ca… …Text Messaging[3] **UNLIMIT**
…ture & Video Messaging[3] **UN**… …e Calling[5] from your Compu…
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Even cartoons need their Cons

The Gorillaz are back Check out the cartoon band's new sound and kicks with the one and only: Converse

RICHARD PECKETT
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

The Converse and Gorillaz sneaker collaboration hits stores this week. But it's no eye-rolling music-meets-fashion collaboration.

The cartoon band — led by lead singer Damon Albarn — employed the help of their art and video director Jamie Hewlett, a smart move judging by his epic videos.

There's a fresh sound too, thanks to the Converse Three Artists One Song, titled DoYaThing featuring Gorillaz, James Murphy and Outkast's Andre 3000, which is available to download from converse.com. (The band's collection of singles is also out now.)

Here's a taste of what to expect with the help of band member Murdoc.

Get the look

The Cons come in a camo-print, military-insignia motif, complete with cartoon Pazuzu character and a collage of graffiti-style album artwork.

But here's a word of advice from our man Murdoc: "I think they need to be worn in a bit, to give them that skuzzy feel." So true, no wannabe hipster wants to rock up in shiny new shoes — you'll be bullied.

The music

It's a mash-up of the entire Gorillaz back catalogue — but don't worry, it doesn't get messy. The band's bassist says: "It's hip-hop, it's funk, it's rock, it rolls — it's got it all. It does its thing, y'know."

Ten years, four shoes

So, just how did the guys decide which designs would make the four shoes cut? Well, Murdoc keeps it simple, saying: "It's always been four pairs of shoes. Me, Russel, Noodle and ... 2D. But the whole history of this band has been just four pairs of shoes."

The cartoon band Gorillaz

CONTRIBUTED

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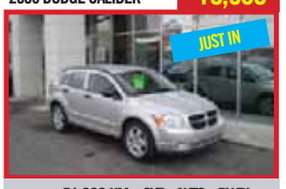

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2009 TOYOTA COROLLA $11,480

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#249842T 250,200 KM • V6 • 4X4 • A/C

2011 TOYOTA RAV4 SPORT $28,980

#085950P 15,000 KM • 2.5L • 4WD • ROOF • AUTO

2006 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER $15,980

#005465T 4X4 • CVT • ATC • STEP BARS • ALLOYS

2005 TOYOTA TACOMA $11,900

#039617TA 119,000 KM • 2WD • ACCESS CAB

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2008 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER $27,880

#033298T 76,000 KM • SR5 • AWD • REAR CAM

2008 TOYOTA TUNDRA $22,880

#543847LP 131,500 KM • DOUBLECAB • 5.7L V8

2007 TOYOTA YARIS $10,980

#174333LP 70,600 KM • AUTO • A/C • PWR W/L

2000 TOYOTA COROLLA $4,800

#792701T • VE • 4DR • REMOTE START • AUTO

2005 ACURA MDX $16,988

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2009 TOYOTA COROLLA $10,980

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Oscars: Who will win, and should

While the Academy has finished voting and the Oscar winners are all but decided, we thought we'd give some experts one last chance to weigh in on the year's best

CONTRIBUTED

▶ The Artist looks like a favourite to collect some serious hardware on Oscar night.

Alonso Duralde, theWrap.com

BEST PICTURE

Will win: The Artist. It's a feel-good movie that, beyond being silent and black-and-white, plays it pretty safe, and it's got the Weinstein machine behind it.

Should win: The Descendants. When people look back at this period of filmmaking decades from now, the humanity and the wit of Alexander Payne's movies will continue to resonate.

Should have been nominated: I know that movies like Weekend or Attack the Block would never in a million years get the nod from Oscar, so I'll go with Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy.

BEST DIRECTOR

Will win: Michel Haznavicius (The Artist), more as part of the sweep for The Artist than out of a collective love of the OSS 117 series.

Should win: Alexander Payne, The Descendants.

Should have been nominated: Bennett Miller, for making Moneyball so fascinating to non-sports fans like me.

BEST ACTOR

Will win: Jean Dujardin (The Artist). He's way more appealing than Roberto Benigni, but if he wins, he'll be lumped together with him for all eternity.

Should win: All of these performances are great in their own way, but I'd love to see Gary Oldman get it, both for making such small choices resonate so deeply in Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy and as a tribute to 25 years of unpredictable work.

Should have been nominated: Steve Coogan in The Trip. Playing "yourself" is tricky business, and he makes his obnoxious on-screen alter ego eminently watchable.

BEST ACTRESS

Will win: Viola Davis (The Help), who gives an extraordinary performance in the service of a toxic movie.

Should win: Davis, if only for having the role that relies the least on prosthetics/makeup/costume.

Should have been nominated: Vera Farmiga, for her luminous work as a woman who begins to question her commitment to her faith in the wonderful and little-seen Higher Ground, which she also directed.

Kyle Buchanan, Vulture

BEST PICTURE

Will win: The Artist.

Should win: Moneyball.

Should have been nominated: Drive.

BEST DIRECTOR

Will win: Michel Hazanavicius, The Artist.

Should win: Either Woody Allen (Midnight in Paris) or Terrence Malick (Tree of Life), simply because they won't show up and the lack of a speech will help bring the show in on time.

Should have been nominated: Bennett Miller, Moneyball.

BEST ACTOR

Will win: Jean Dujardin, The Artist.

Should win: Brad Pitt, Moneyball.

Should have been nominated: Michael Shannon, Take Shelter.

BEST ACTRESS

Will win: Viola Davis, The Help.

Should win: Viola Davis, The Help.

Should have been nominated: Kristen Wiig, Bridesmaids.

Ned Ehrbar, Metro World News

BEST PICTURE

Will win: The Artist, a decent tribute to the history of film, but too light for my tastes.

Should win: Hugo, a much more inventive tribute to the history of film.

Should have been nominated: Shame, by far one the best — and most depressing — films of the year.

BEST DIRECTOR

Will win: Michel Hazanavicius, The Artist.

Should win: Martin Scorsese, Hugo.

Should have been nominated: David Fincher, Girl with the Dragon Tattoo.

BEST ACTOR

Will win: Jean Dujardin, The Artist

Should win: Gary Oldman, Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy.

Should have been nominated: Michael Fassbender, Shame.

BEST ACTRESS

Will win: Meryl Streep, The Iron Lady.

Should win: Streep, because really, it's time. And she made Margaret Thatcher human.

Should have been nominated: Tilda Swinton, We Need to Talk About Kevin.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR AND ACTRESS

Smart money's on Christopher Plummer for Beginners and Octavia Spencer for The Help.

METRO

AU student Shenoor in Toronto, ON

Gazing into the future

It's been a long and exhausting awards season, so before the awards are even handed out, let's move on to next year. Here are some random, completely unfounded predictions for next year's Oscars:

BEST PICTURE:
Life of Pi. Ang Lee taking on a best-selling novel about a boy and a bunch of animals lost at sea? Can't lose.

BEST ACTOR:
Daniel Day-Lewis, Lincoln. The award-winning — and notoriously picky — actor taking on the Great Emancipator as directed by Stephen Spielberg? Exactly the kind of combination the Academy goes gaga for.

BEST ACTRESS:
Carey Mulligan, The Great Gatsby. With nothing to base an opinion on, why not be super-optimistic about Mulligan's turn as Daisy Buchanan in Baz Lurhmann's 3D version of the literary classic?

Leonardo DiCaprio, though, will continue to not win an Oscar. METRO

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Bobby Brown plans Whitney tell-all book

Friends furious at his attempts to cash in on her death, ditching funeral

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Bobby Brown is reportedly looking to write a tell-all memoir about his time with Whitney Houston — but it's not the first time he's had the idea, according to the Huffington Post.

"Back in 2008, the interest in a book on Whitney Houston wasn't that great. Whitney had fallen off the radar back then," a source says.

"But now, following her tragic death, the market has changed. Now is the time for a book that details an honest look into the life of Whitney."

Friends of the late singer aren't surprised by Brown's supposed interest.

"This is a man who left his ex-wife's funeral because he didn't like his seats and went to a paying gig that night," one pal says.

"He didn't get on stage that night because he needed to sing his greatest hits or because Whitney would have wanted him to entertain his fans, he did it to get a paycheck — the same reason he now wants to write a tell-all book."

METRO

Talking points

Witherspoon wants to add to her family

ANOTHER FUTURE BREAD WINNER Reese Witherspoon is up for the idea of having a baby with new husband Jim Toth, according to Hollyscoop.

"I'd love that," the Oscar-winner says. "I feel really good and I'm at a really good place in my life."

Witherspoon already has two children — 12-year-old Ava and 8-year-old Deacon — with ex-husband Ryan Phillippe, and she admits another kid would mean more people to embarrass around the house.

"The other day I was dancing around the house when they came in and literally stared at me like, 'Oh my God, that's so embarrassing,'" she says of her children.

"But I didn't stop. You can't stop dancing."

METRO

Celebrity tweets

"I'm considering changing my Twitter avatar. This decision is momentous. Feel like I should focus group it."

@ElizabethBanks

"I've waited 25 years for last night. it was worth every second .... welcome back Dave Roth. Rock has a new sherriff."

@charliesheen

"There's four kids at this playground named Cody. Buffalo Bill would be so proud."

@joelmchale

"Great news! Hosting Oscars counts five hours toward my community service!"

@BillyCrystal

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Classy take on Oscar bites

Many Academy Award parties offer themed dishes Try sophisticated Smoked Salmon Oscar Bites instead If you want a theme, serve beverages inspired by best picture nominees

PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

I've been addicted to the Academy Awards show since I stayed up past my bedtime to watch The Godfather Part II beat The Towering Inferno for best picture in 1974 (I'm still shocked).

This year, I'm celebrating what's proved to be a pretty good year for movies by coming up with a liquid match for the front runners vying for the top prize this Sunday.

The Artist
A black and white silent film from France is this year's best bet for Best Picture? Its late '20s setting made me thirsty for an ice cold martini made with France's best know neutral spirit Grey Goose Vodka ($44.99 - $49.99). Shaken, not stirred.

The Descendants
Alexander Payne directed the now classic wine-themed Sideways. Celebrate his latest masterpiece (and George Clooney's great performance) with anything but merlot. Think a food friendly, Californian red like Robert Mondavi's 2008 Private Selection Pinot Noir ($15.95 - $19.99).

The Help
This excellent ensemble piece is set in the southern USA during the days when the Civil Rights movement was just getting going. American whisky is the tipple of choice in that part of the world so reach for a chilled shot of Maker's Mark Bourbon ($35.95 - $39.99). Scared of bourbon sans mix? Make the south's most famous cocktail: The mint julep.

Midnight In Paris
An American in Paris travels back in time to the City of Lights' heyday. Toast Woody Allen with the fruit-forward goodness of Georges Duboeuf's 2010 Brouilly ($15.78 - $22.49) from France's Beaujolais region. Baguette, optional.

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EMILY RICHARDS

This recipe makes 24 bites.

DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

Make your party just as fancy as the Academy Awards with these Smoked Salmon Oscar Bites. The lemon balances the flavour.

Preparation:

1. Using electric mixer, beat cheese until fluffy. Beat in horseradish, shallot, capers, garlic, lemon rind and juice until smooth.
2. Place croustade cups onto serving platter and pipe small amount of the mixture into cups.
3. Cut thhe smoked salmon into thin strips and place decoratively on top of cream cheese mixture. Sprinkle with chives before serving.

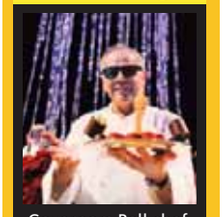
EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup (125 mL) light cream cheese, softened
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) horseradish
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) minced shallot
- 2 tsp (10 mL) minced capers
- 1 small clove garlic, minced
- 1 tsp (5 mL) grated lemon rind
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) lemon juice
- 1 box (40 g) siljans croustade cups
- 1 pkg (85 g) sliced smoked salmon
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) fresh chives

3 life

Star dining



Governors Ball chef Wolfgang Puck has once again created a delicious array of dishes for the stars to dine on following the 84th Academy Awards.

This year, instead of a formal sit-down dinner, the chef will offer 50 dishes for a buffet-style event.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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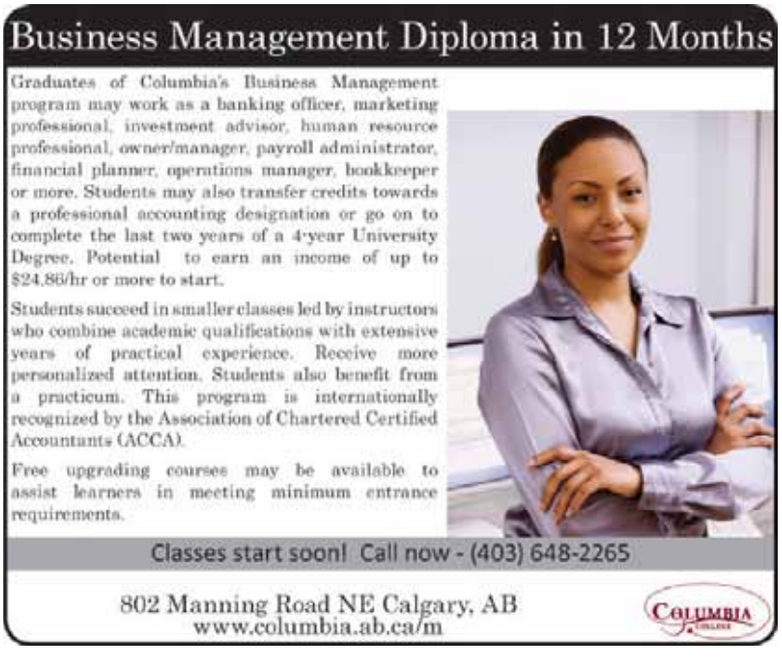
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4 sports

Sports in brief

Ottawa Senators goalie Craig Anderson is out indefinitely with a hand injury.

The Senators say Anderson accidentally cut his right hand while preparing a meal Thursday.

He was treated in hospital and is expected to make a full recovery.

The 30-year-old Anderson has appeared in 56 games this season, posting a 2.85 goals-against average and 29-19-6 record.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Phoenix's Ray Whitney scores the tying goal on Miikka Kiprusoff.

Missed opportunity

Flames have to settle for a point after losing to Coyotes in shootout

Ray Whitney scored the lone goal of the shootout Thursday to lead the Phoenix Coyotes to a 4-3 win over the Calgary Flames.

Whitney also had a goal and an assist in regulation for the Coyotes (31-21-9), who won their fourth straight game and improved to 9-0-1 in their past 10. Shane Doan and former Flames forward Daymond Langkow also scored in regulation for Phoenix.

Alex Tanguay had a goal and an assist in the first period for the Flames (28-23-10), who lost their second straight game at home.

COYOTES	FLAMES
4	3

Matt Stajan and Olli Jokinen also scored.

Mike Smith made 21 saves in the Phoenix net before also turning aside both Tanguay and Jarome Iginla to secure the shootout victory. Smith extended his career-high winning streak to nine games and his personal record against the Flames to 3-0.

Miikka Kiprusoff stopped 26-of-29 shots he faced.

The game marked the return of forward Curtis Glencross and defenceman Derek Smith to Calgary's lineup. Glencross had missed 13 games with a knee injury, while Smith sat out the last 22 with a high-ankle sprain.

Smith made an early impact as he fired a point shot on the Phoenix net that Smith bobbled before directing wide of the net.

Glencross then almost put the Flames up 1-0 when he redirected a pass from Iginla off the post before Smith kicked the puck out of the way.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kings land Carter

Jeff Carter is on his way to the West Coast.

The L.A. Kings acquired the centre from the Columbus Blue Jackets on Thursday night for defenceman Jack Johnson and a conditional first-round pick.

The deal is pending both players passing a physical Friday.

Carter, 27, missed 20 games this season due to a broken foot and a separated shoulder. He had three goals in the Blue Jackets' last game and has 15 goals and 10 assists in 39 games.

"I am obviously excited. I am familiar with the team and a lot of guys on the team," Carter said. "I looked at the Kings at the start of the year as being a club in a good position to win. I look forward to coming to L.A. and being a part of it all."

Columbus acquired Carter from the Philadelphia Flyers last summer for Jakub Voracek and first- and third-round picks in 2011.

He signed an 11-year, $58-million US contract with Philadelphia in November 2010.

"Jeff is a proven goal scorer in our league. He brings goal-scoring abilities, speed and at his age he is entering the prime of his career," Kings president and general manager Dean Lombardi said in a statement. "We also like his versatility as he can play both centre and wing."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Braun's 50-game suspension tossed

Ryan Braun's 50-game suspension was overturned Thursday by arbitrator Shyam Das, the first time a baseball player has successfully challenged a drug-related penalty in a grievance.

The decision was announced Thursday by the Major League Baseball Players Association, a day before the 28-year-old outfielder was due to report to spring training with the Milwaukee Brewers.

Braun's urine tested positive in October for elevated testosterone. ESPN revealed the positive test in December.

Braun has insisted that he did not violate baseball's drug agreement.

"I am very pleased and relieved by today's decision," he said in a statement. "It is the first step in restoring my good name and reputation. We were able to get through this because I am innocent and the truth is on our side."

MLB executive vice-president Rob Manfred said management "vehemently disagrees" with Das' decision.

Travis Tygart, chief executive officer of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, called the decision "a real gut-kick to clean athletes."

During the hearing, Braun's side challenged the chain of custody from the time the urine sample was collected by Comprehensive Drug Testing Inc. to when it was sent, nearly 48 hours later, to a World Anti-Doping Agency-certified laboratory in Montreal, two people familiar with the case said. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the hearing was supposed to be confidential.

Das, baseball's independent arbitrator since 2000, informed the sides of his decision and has 30 days to provide a written opinion.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sample slip-up?

Ryan Braun's urine sample was collected Saturday, Oct. 1, the day the Brewers opened the NL playoffs.

- The collector didn't send the sample to the laboratory until Monday, thinking it would be more secure at home than at a FedEx office during the weekend.
- MLB's drug agreement states: "Absent unusual circumstances, the specimens should be sent by FedEx to the laboratory on the same day they are collected."
- "To have this sort of technicality of all technicalities let a player off ... it's just a sad day for all the clean players and those that abide by the rules within professional baseball," Travis Tygart, CEO of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, said.

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	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
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d-Boston	58	36	20	1	1	194	134	74	18-10-1-1	18-10-0-0	4-6-0-0	W1
d-Winnipeg	63	30	26	4	3	161	178	67	19-9-1-2	11-17-3-1	6-3-1-0	W1
New Jersey	59	35	20	1	3	168	162	74	16-10-0-3	19-10-1-0	8-1-0-1	W4
Pittsburgh	60	34	21	2	3	186	160	73	18-8-2-0	16-13-0-3	5-4-0-1	W1
Philadelphia	60	33	20	2	5	198	183	73	14-10-1-4	19-10-1-1	3-6-0-1	L1
Ottawa	62	32	22	6	2	190	185	72	16-11-2-1	16-11-4-1	5-3-2-0	W4
Florida	59	27	20	5	7	146	165	66	14-8-1-7	13-12-4-0	4-5-0-1	L4
Toronto	61	29	25	4	3	182	186	65	16-10-3-2	13-15-1-1	3-6-1-0	L3
Washington	60	29	26	2	3	161	173	63	19-8-0-2	10-18-2-1	3-6-0-1	L3
Tampa Bay	60	27	27	3	3	169	201	60	18-9-1-1	9-18-2-2	5-4-1-0	L1
Buffalo	60	26	27	3	4	150	176	59	15-11-3-4	11-16-0-0	5-3-0-2	W2
NY Islanders	60	25	27	5	3	139	171	58	13-14-5-0	12-13-1-2	4-5-0-1	L2
Montreal	61	24	27	2	8	160	167	58	11-14-2-6	13-13-0-2	5-4-0-1	L2
Carolina	61	23	26	7	5	160	184	58	16-12-0-4	7-14-7-1	5-2-2-1	L1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	62	41	18	1	2	194	145	85	26-2-1-1	15-16-0-1	6-2-0-2	L2
d-Vancouver	61	39	16	0	6	199	150	84	18-6-0-4	21-10-0-2	8-1-0-1	W1
d-San Jose	59	32	20	4	3	172	149	71	18-9-2-0	14-11-2-3	3-6-1-0	W1
St. Louis	61	37	17	1	6	155	123	81	26-4-1-3	11-13-0-3	7-3-0-0	W1
Nashville	61	35	19	3	4	170	158	77	19-7-2-3	16-12-1-1	4-3-0-3	L1
Chicago	62	33	22	4	3	192	182	73	21-7-1-3	12-15-3-0	4-6-0-0	L1
Phoenix	61	31	21	3	6	161	154	71	16-10-2-2	15-11-1-4	9-0-0-1	W4
Dallas	61	31	26	1	3	158	168	66	16-12-0-2	15-14-1-1	4-4-1-1	W2
Calgary	61	28	23	5	5	146	165	66	16-9-1-2	12-14-4-3	5-1-2-2	L2
Los Angeles	61	27	22	5	7	129	135	66	15-13-0-4	12-9-5-3	2-6-1-1	L4
Colorado	61	30	27	3	1	155	169	64	17-13-0-1	13-14-3-0	4-4-1-1	W1
Minnesota	60	27	24	2	7	134	156	63	14-10-1-3	13-14-1-4	3-5-0-2	W2
Anaheim	61	26	25	4	6	157	173	62	15-13-2-0	11-12-2-6	7-1-0-2	W1
Edmonton	60	24	30	2	4	161	178	54	16-10-2-2	8-20-0-2	5-4-1-0	W2
Columbus	60	18	35	2	5	142	198	43	11-16-1-2	7-19-1-3	5-4-1-0	W1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
San Jose 2 Toronto 1
Anaheim 3 Carolina 2 (OT)
Minnesota 3 Florida 2 (SO)
Vancouver 4 Detroit 3 (SO)
St. Louis 3 Nashville 2 (SO)
Winnipeg 4 Tampa Bay 3
Dallas 3 Chicago 1
Phoenix 4 Calgary 3 (SO)
Edmonton 2 Philadelphia 0
Wednesday's results
Ottawa 5 Washington 2
Boston 4 St. Louis 2
Colorado 4 Los Angeles 1
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
Vancouver at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Washington, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Boston at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

CANUCKS 4, WINGS 3 (SO)
First Period
1. Detroit, Helm 7, 11:16
Penalties — Lapierre Vcr (boarding) 3:13, Abdelkader Det (interference) 6:49, D.Sedin Vcr (goaltender interference) 13:16, Booth Vcr (holding) 16:58.
Second Period
2. Vancouver, D.Sedin 27 (H.Sedin, Edler) 13:34
Penalties — Quincey Det (interference) 3:35, Quincey Det (tripping) 6:52, Miller Det (tripping) 13:12, Kesler Vcr (interference) 13:18, Hamhuis Vcr (roughing) 14:19.
Third Period
3. Detroit, Quincey 6 (Abdelkader, Helm) 6:08
4. Vancouver, Hodgson 16, 13:26
5. Detroit, Abdelkader 7 (Helm, Miller) 13:46
6. Vancouver, D.Sedin 28 (H.Sedin, Kesler) 19:44
Penalties — None.
Overtime
No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout —
Vancouver wins 1-0
Vancouver (1) — Booth, miss; Edler, miss; Burrows, goal.
Detroit (0) — Hudler, miss; Zetterberg, miss; Bertuzzi, miss.
Shots

Vancouver	17	8	13	5—43
Detroit	5	15	12	4—36

Goal — Vancouver: Luongo (W,26-11-6); Detroit: Howard (L,32-12-2). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Vancouver: 0-4; Detroit: 0-5.
Att. — 20,066 (20,066) at Detroit.

JETS 4, LIGHTNING 3
First Period
1. Winnipeg, Ladd 20 (Little, Wheeler) 7:11
2. Winnipeg, Glass 5 (Thorburn, Flood) 14:59
Penalties — None.
Second Period
3. Winnipeg, Kane 24 (Byfuglien, Ladd) 1:36 (pp)
4. Winnipeg, Byfuglien 10 (Wheeler, Ladd) 2:48 (pp)
Penalties — Hedman TB (delay of game) 0:14, Malone TB (interference) 2:39, Byfuglien Wpg (roughing) 8:15, Hedman TB, Wheeler Wpg (roughing) 13:49.
Third Period
5. Tampa Bay, Stamkos 43 (Malone, Purcell) 11:00 (pp)
6. Tampa Bay, Purcell 16 (Stamkos) 19:06
7. Tampa Bay, St. Louis 19 (Purcell, Stamkos) 19:51 (pp)
Penalties — Wheeler Wpg (cross-checking) 0:12, Stapleton Wpg (tripping) 3:08, Kane Wpg (slashing) 10:13, Gilroy TB (tripping) 16:14, Malone TB (roughing), Glass Wpg (cross-checking; served by Stapleton), Glass Wpg (roughing) 19:43.
Shots

Tampa Bay	9	6	10	25
Winnipeg	16	10	8	34

Goal (shots-saves) — Tampa Bay: Garon (L,19-16-4)(18-14), Roloson (2:48 second; 16-16); Winnipeg: Pavelec (W,23-20-7). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Tampa Bay: 2-5; Winnipeg: 2-3.
Att. — 15,004 (15,004) at Winnipeg.

COYOTES 4, FLAMES 3 (SO)
First Period
1. Calgary, Tanguay 7, 8:35
2. Calgary, Stajan 2 (Tanguay, Sarich) 15:38
Penalties — None.
Second Period
3. Phoenix, Langkow 8 (Whitney, Boedker) 1:32
4. Phoenix, Doan 19 (Ekman-Larsson, Yandle) 17:08
Penalties — Ekman-Larsson Phx (hooking) 9:43, Bouwmeester Cal (hooking) 15:07.
Third Period
5. Phoenix, Whitney 17, 10:27
6. Calgary, Jokinen 19 (Iginla, Cammalleri) 18:14 (pp)
Penalties — Doan Phx (holding) 4:43, Stajan Cal (cross-checking) 6:31, Vrbata Phx (interference) 16:34.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout — Phoenix wins 1-0
Phoenix (1) — Whitney, goal; Vrbata, miss.
Calgary (0) — Jokinen, miss; Tanguay, miss; Iginla, miss.
Shots

Phoenix	7	9	12	1—29
Calgary	9	8	7	0—24

Goal — Phoenix: Smith (W,27-14-7); Calgary: Kiprusoff (L,27-18-6). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Phoenix: 0-2; Calgary: 1-3.
Att. — 19,289 (19,289) at Calgary.

OILERS 2, FLYERS 0
First Period
No scoring.
Penalties — Horcoff Edm (hooking) 4:37, Shelley Pha, Hordichuk Edm (fighting) 8:23, Hordichuk Edm (roughing) 8:23.
Second Period
1. Edmonton, Hall 22 (Whitney, Eberle) 3:26 (pp)
2. Edmonton, Eberle 27, 8:04
Penalties — Kubina Pha (holding) 2:15, Hartnell Pha (kneeing) 18:24.
Third Period
No scoring.
Missed penalty shot — Horcoff Edm, 17:06.
Penalties — Hartnell Pha, Whitney Edm (unsportsmanlike conduct) 9:21, Hall Edm (slashing) 16:27.
Shots

Philadelphia	14	6	15	35
Edmonton	9	15	5	29

Goal — Philadelphia: Bryzgalov (L,21-12-6); Edmonton: Dubnyk (W,12-14-1). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Philadelphia: 0-3; Edmonton: 1-2.
Att. — 16,839 (16,839) at Edmonton.

SOCCER

EUROPA LEAGUE
SECOND ROUND
First Leg
Yesterday's results
Athletic Bilbao (Spain) 1 Locomotiv Moscow (Russia) 0 (2-2 on aggregate; Athletic Bilbao advances on away-goal rule)
FC Brugge (Belgium) 0 Hannover (Germany) 1 (Hannover advances 3-1 on aggregate)
PAOK Thessaloniki (Greece) 0, Udinese (Italy) 3 (Udinese advances 3-0 on aggregate)
PSV Eindhoven (Netherlands) 4 Trabzonspor (Turkey) 1 (PSV advances 6-2 on aggregate)
Standard Liege (Belgium) 0, Wisla Krakow (Poland) 0 (1-1 on aggregate; Standard Liege advances on away-goal rule)
FC Twente (Netherlands) 1, Steaua Bucharest (Romania) 0 (FC Twente advances 2-0 on aggregate)
Valencia (Spain) 1, Stoke (England) 0 (Valencia advances 2-0 on aggregate)
Anderlecht (Belgium) 0, AZ Alkmaar (Netherlands) 1 (AZ Alkmaar advances 2-0 on aggregate)
Atletico Madrid (Spain) 1 Lazio (Italy) 0 (Atletico Madrid advances 4-1 on aggregate)
Besiktas (Turkey) 0, Braga (Portugal) 1 (Besiktas advances 2-1 on aggregate)
Manchester United (England) 1 Ajax (Netherlands) 2 (Manchester United advances 3-2 on aggregate)
Metalist Kharkiv (Ukraine) 4 Salzburg (Austria) 1 (Metalist Kharkiv advances 8-1 on aggregate)
Olympiakos (Greece) 1 Rubin Kazan (Russia) 0 (Olympiakos advances 2-0 on aggregate)
Sporting Lisbon (Portugal) 1 Legia Warsaw (Poland) 0 (Sporting Lisbon advances 3-2 on aggregate)
Schalke (Germany) 3 Viktoria Plzen (Czech Republic) 1 extra time (Schalke advances 4-2 on aggregate)

TRANSACTIONS

MLB
MLBPA—Announced the 50-game suspension of Milwaukee OF Ryan Braun was overturned by by baseball arbitrator Shyam Das.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
NEW YORK YANKEES—Agreed to terms with 3B Eric Chavez on a one-year contract.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to terms with OF Jason Bourgeois, RHP David Carpenter and LHP Wesley Wright on one-year contracts.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Claimed OF Matt Angle off waivers from Baltimore and added him to the 40-man roster. Placed RHP Rubby De La Rosa on the 60-day DL.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Promoted Kevin Gregg to manager, baseball communications.

NFL
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Named Ron Cooper secondary coach.

CFL
WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS—Acquired P Eric Wilbur from Edmonton for a conditional 2013 sixth round draft pick.

CURLING

SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS
At Red Deer, Alta.

Province (skip)	W	L
Manitoba (J.Jones)	8	2
B.C. (K.Scott)	7	3
Quebec (Larouche)	7	4
Canada (Holland)	6	4
Alberta (Nedohin)	6	4
New Brunswick (Atkinson)	5	5
Saskatchewan (Englot)	4	6
Ontario (Horgan)	4	6
Nova Scotia (Smith-Dacey)	4	6
N.L. (H.Strong)	4	7
NWT/Yukon (Galusha)	4	7
P.E.I. (Dolan)	3	8

All Times Eastern
Yesterday's results
Draw 15
Alberta 10 Newfoundland & Labrador 3
British Columbia 8 P.E.I. 5
Northwest/Yukon Territories 7 Canada 5
Quebec 7 Ontario 5
Draw 16
Manitoba 7 Quebec 4
Northwest/Yukon Territories 7 Saskatchewan 4
P.E.I. 11 New Brunswick 4
Newfoundland & Labrador 10 Nova Scotia 5
Draw 17
Canada vs. Saskatchewan; Ontario vs. Manitoba; Alberta vs. Nova Scotia; New Brunswick vs. British Columbia.
Wednesday Results
Draw 12
New Brunswick 6 Ontario 5
Nova Scotia 7 Canada 6 (extra end)
Manitoba 8 British Columbia 6 (extra end)
Alberta 9 Saskatchewan 8
Draw 13
British Columbia 11 Northwest/Yukon Territories 6
Quebec 6 Alberta 5
Ontario 7 Newfoundland & Labrador 4
Canada 10 P.E.I. 4
Draw 14
Nova Scotia 7 P.E.I. 6 (extra end)
Newfoundland & Labrador 9 New Brunswick 4
Quebec 10 Saskatchewan 6
Manitoba 8 Northwest/Yukon Territories 2

LACROSSE

NLL
All Times EST

EAST DIVISION	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Philadelphia	6	4	2	.667	69	77	—
Toronto	6	3	3	.500	69	70	1
Rochester	7	3	4	.429	90	86	1½
Buffalo	6	2	4	.333	70	76	2
WEST DIVISION							
Colorado	6	6	0	1.000	83	73	—
Calgary	6	4	2	.667	74	65	2
Minnesota	6	3	3	.500	73	74	3
Edmonton	5	1	4	.200	52	51	4½
Washington	6	1	5	.167	58	76	5

WEEK EIGHT
Tonight's games
Rochester at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Calgary at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at Washington, 11 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
At Buffalo, N.Y.
NLL All-star Game, 7 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Miami	27	7	.794	—
d-Chicago	27	8	.771	½
Indiana	21	12	.636	5½
d-Philadelphia	20	14	.588	7
Orlando	22	13	.629	5½
Atlanta	20	14	.588	7
New York	17	18	.486	10½
Boston	15	17	.469	11
Cleveland	13	18	.419	12½
Milwaukee	13	20	.394	13½
Detroit	11	24	.314	16½
Toronto	10	23	.303	16½
New Jersey	10	25	.286	17½
Washington	7	26	.212	19½
Charlotte	4	28	.125	22

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	26	7	.788	—
d-San Antonio	24	10	.706	2½
d-L.A. Clippers	20	11	.645	5
Dallas	21	13	.618	5½
L.A. Lakers	20	13	.606	6
Houston	20	14	.588	6½
Memphis	19	15	.559	7½
Portland	18	16	.529	8½
Denver	18	17	.514	9
Minnesota	17	17	.500	9½
Utah	15	17	.469	10½
Golden State	13	17	.433	11½
Phoenix	14	20	.412	12½
Sacramento	11	22	.333	15
New Orleans	8	25	.242	18

d — division leaders ranked in top four positions regardless of record.

Last night's results
Miami 102 New York 88
Atlanta 83 Orlando 78
San Antonio 114 Denver 99
L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City
Wednesday's results
Oklahoma City 119 Boston 104
Indiana 102 Charlotte 88
New Orleans 89 Cleveland 84
Toronto 103 Detroit 93
Sacramento 115 Washington 107
Orlando 108 New Jersey 91
New York 99 Atlanta 82
Chicago 110 Milwaukee 91
Houston 93 Philadelphia 87
Minnesota 100 Utah 98
Golden State 106 Phoenix 104
L.A. Lakers 96 Dallas 91
L.A. Clippers 103 Denver 95

SCORING AVERAGE

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Bryant, LAL	33	344	207	942	28.5
Durant, OKC	33	331	197	915	27.7
James, MIA	32	319	219	883	27.6
Love, MIN	32	258	234	799	25.0
Westbrook, OKC	33	297	161	780	23.6
Ellis, GOL	29	239	133	651	22.4
Aldridge, POR	32	289	134	713	22.3
D. Williams, NJN	34	253	168	756	22.2
Griffin, LAC	31	272	118	663	21.4
Howard, ORL	34	253	184	690	20.3
Nowitzki, DAL	30	214	134	587	19.6
Parker, SAN	32	236	145	623	19.5
Lee, GOL	29	232	95	559	19.3
Jefferson, UTA	29	242	70	554	19.1
Gay, MEM	34	261	92	642	18.9
Jennings, MIL	33	225	88	606	18.4
Bosh, MIA	33	230	135	602	18.2
Irving, CLE	28	189	96	508	18.1
Granger, IND	31	182	135	558	18.0

Not including last night's games

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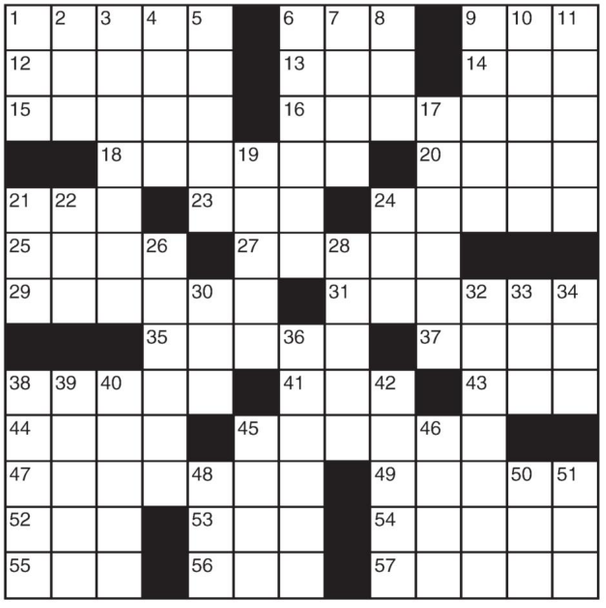
Crossword



Across

1 Treaties
6 Morsel
9 Curved flight path
12 "I don't give —!"
13 Rhyming tribute
14 Feathery neckwear
15 Comic Sykes
16 Alluring attraction
18 Roughhousing lass
20 Eye layer
21 Swelled head
23 Emcee Sajak
24 Take forcibly
25 It may be a proper subject
27 Oregon's capital
29 Avenue
31 Mistreated
35 Destroy
37 Tear asunder
38 "M*A*S*H" clerk
41 That girl
43 Still
44 Basin accessory
45 Louvre or Prado
47 Free-runners' sport
49 Foreheads
52 Upper limb
53 Foreign policy grp.
54 Standard
55 Verily
56 Blond shade
57 Late

Down

1 Dog's foot
2 "Caught ya!"
3 Shape
4 Commotion
5 Postage
6 Colombia's capital
7 Without acting
8 Afternoon affair
9 Overhead
10 Libertines
11 200 milligrams
17 Grumbling sound
19 Sew loosely
21 Type squares
22 Obtained
24 "Charlotte's —"
26 New Jersey airport city
28 Great quintet?
30 Bobble
32 "Little Shop of Horrors" role
33 Away from WSW
34 Banned pesticide
36 House of worship
38 Settle a loan
39 Cognizant
40 Skin (Suff.)
42 Show to be false
45 Tousle, as hair
46 — Major
48 "Three Men — Horse"
50 Bankroll
51 Crafty

▶ Yesterday's answer

E	C	R	U		H	A	S		P	H	A	T
M	A	I	L		O	N	E		L	O	D	E
I	S	N	T		M	A	G		A	M	E	N
R	E	G	I	M	E		A	C	C	E	N	T
			M	A	T			H	I	S		
E	C	H	O		O	P	H	I	D	I	A	N
F	R	O			W	H	O			C	H	E
T	Y	M	P	A	N	U	M		S	K	A	T
		E	L	M			E	W	E			
J	E	W	I	S	H		B	E	A	C	O	N
A	L	O	E		E	D	O		L	A	T	E
P	A	R	R		A	N	D		E	P	I	C
E	L	K	S		L	A	Y		D	E	S	K

Sudoku

	5		9		4		2	
7			6		1			4
	8			5			9	
		2				1		
4	7						3	2
		8				9		
	4			3			1	
5			2		9			8
	9		5		7		6	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

1	8	6	7	4	5	9	2	3
7	4	3	6	9	2	5	1	8
9	5	2	3	8	1	4	7	6
2	3	9	8	1	4	7	6	5
4	7	5	9	6	3	2	8	1
6	1	8	5	2	7	3	4	9
8	9	7	2	5	6	1	3	4
3	6	4	1	7	9	8	5	2
5	2	1	4	3	8	6	9	7

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

Joombazz, Hi babe, I know we've been having our disagreements and misunderstandings more than ever now but even with everything going on know that my love never stops for you but continues to grow. Everything we go through only makes us stronger and closer. I love you with all my heart baby boo. Take care and smile! :) **JABOOMZZ**

strong women
Friends are gems. Family are forever hugs and kisses. Little ones need us even if they are not our own. Big high five to all the hardworking people out there trying to make a better world they live in. Its another beautiful day. Smile! **SAME CLUB**

you, i'd say everyrthing that i know just to see if it would show. but this time i just dont know. i wonder why your always in a good mood though. **BABES**

A look at the weather

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Min -11°	Min -6°	Min -17°
Max -2°	Max -4°	Max -11°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta". **WEEKDAYS 5:30AM**

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
You have so many good things going for you that you don't need to waste time on schemes that are unlikely to ever come true.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
Life is too short to waste time arguing over trivial things, so ignore people who try to involve you in fights that don't matter.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
Your mind is forever on the move and at least one of your ideas is touched by genius.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22
Someone needs your help but is afraid to ask. You know who he or she is. Make the first move.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
The answers you get today may not be the answers you want but they are the answers you need to hear.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
You are in a hole and no amount of wishful thinking is going to get you out of it. It is time to get practical.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
If you are going to make the most of your talents, you need to stretch yourself — not just physically but mentally, too.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
The planets indicate you need help today but you may be reluctant to ask because you don't like to be in anyone's debt. You won't be.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
Think carefully before making major changes over the next 24 hours. You should be aiming for evolution, not revolution.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
You need to be careful when dealing with both financial matters and affairs of the heart.

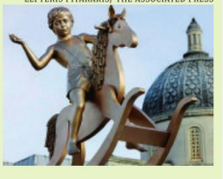
♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Some people are being unnaturally nice to you, making you wonder what they are up to. There is nothing they can do to hurt you.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
There's a danger you'll end up partying with the wrong sort of crowd, but so what? **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/ THE ASSOCIATED

LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Tuesday's Metro.

Your Time is **NOW**!

Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are tired and burdened, and I will give you rest".
Do you have a burden on you that you wish you could just share with somebody? Are you wondering who that person could be? Why don't you try Jesus, the ultimate burden bearer, and see what only He can do!

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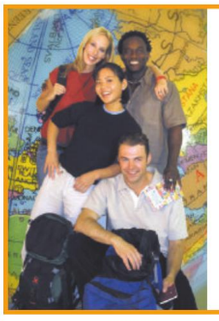

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LOOK AGAIN SPOT THE 10 DIFFERENCES IN THESE TWO IMAGES.

Catalonia, Spain – Even while parked, the all-new 2012 Chevrolet Cruze is a total showstopper outside the Apolo Theatre. With best-in-class safety and highway fuel efficiency it's a dramatic presence like this, that has the Cruze's next stop in Hollywood.

1. Word 'bar' removed from awning 2. Red dot added to boy's ball cap 3. Red dot on window removed 4. '1' removed from building number 5. '0' filled in in the word Apolo 6. Blue sign removed from wall 7. Driver's side reflector removed from the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 8. Vent added on red wall 9. Sewer on curb in front of car removed 10. Key entry removed from door handle

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